

# THE CULTIVATOR.

FORBES. VAN VRAKEN, N. Y.

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To Improve the Soil and the Mind.

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## National Consumption of Crops.

It is said that great men, when they fall into error, make the greatest blunders; in the same way, we suppose, that a big cannon, pointed wrong, will carry its shot further out of the way than a mere pop-gun.

We have been reminded of this admitted truth, in observing the anxiety of the British political economists in devising some means to remove the necessity of such large importations of grain. Notwithstanding that the wheat crop of England is some two hundred millions of bushels, a deficiency, requiring a corresponding supply from other countries, has annually occurred of late years, amounting to some 40 million bushels. For the coming year, it is estimated at over eighty millions at the very least. To lessen this deficiency or to prevent its increase, a great deal of wisdom has been brought to bear, and with great success in every direction *but one*, by the most eminent British statesmen and agriculturists. Enterprising farmers have introduced the best known systems of cultivation; and in addition to the careful manufacture of manure, bones have been largely imported from the continent, and millions in value of guano from South America. The Mark-Lane Express has lately taken up another branch of the subject for the purpose of effecting a saving in the consumption of grain. The amount invested in *horses* in Great Britain and Ireland is estimated at 300 millions of dollars; and it is supposed that these are actually employed but one-third of the time—leaving about 200 millions unproductive. The horses employed in agriculture alone are supposed to consume eighty million bushels of oats annually, (making no account of the amount of grass and hay required besides, for their support,) which if produced in the shape of human food, would more than supply the national deficiency; and suggestions are made on the reduction of horses by a more economical system of agriculture, and especially by the employment of steam power for all the practical purposes in farming of which it may be susceptible.

It seems absolutely astonishing to any one not acquainted with the tenacity with which the English hold fast to the habit of BEER-DRINKING, that the enormous consumption of grain in this worse than use-

less beverage, should not engage more attention. We have not now at hand the statistics showing the amount of this consumption; but when we reflect on the millions of laborers that daily use large quantities of beer with their meals and otherwise, year in and year out, it becomes self-evident that the amount consumed in the manufacture of this drink, must far exceed the present deficiency in the wheat crops of the British kingdom—a manufacture which, as chemical analysis has shown, nearly destroys all the nutriment of the grain, and, converting it to a mere stimulant, increases the strength of a laborer about as much as a whip increases the strength of a feeble horse.

Independently of the mere consumption of grain, so great is the injurious results produced by this practice, that many have attributed the degradation of a portion of the English laborers, to the British aristocratic system. We are sorry to see that one of our own countrymen,—the editor of the *Michigan Farmer*,—has fallen into this mistake, and written a book called *THE MUD CABIN*, unwisely attacking the most liberal government in Europe, as the cause of this degradation, and almost the only one where knowledge is generally diffused among all classes so far as they choose to acquire it, and where a man may say his soul is his own, without endangering his liberty or his head. The editor of the *Ohio Cultivator*, who has spent many years at different periods in England, assures us he is satisfied that this debasement and ignorance is to be mainly attributed to the beer soaking system.

It should be the aim of wise men to learn from the defects and omissions of others; and if British statesmen overlook the bad effects of converting a hundred million bushels of grain into diluted alcohol, it is worth while to inquire whether we are not suffering from a similar cause. Farmers have been led to regard distilleries as very profitable markets for some of their grains, but in doing so they appear to overlook some important considerations. It may be laid down as a principle, in the first place, lying at the foundation of national and individual prosperity, that a loss sustained by any considerable portion of commercial society, is felt more or less through all the rest. If the farmers' profits are lessened, traders will immediately find a curtailment in the amount of their business; if merchants are compelled to incur heavy expenses, the

farmer must of course pay more for all his purchased goods. If fifty million dollars' worth of grain is destroyed by distillation, the loss cannot fail to be felt by the country at large; although large profits may be reaped by the few individuals engaged in the manufacture, a small portion of which may be divided among the farmers. Yet these very farmers lose ten-fold more by the general depression in the prosperity of the country, occasioned by this waste, and by the consumption of the products of distilleries, producing a crippled enterprise among the consumers. Incontrovertible statistics also prove that for the support of pauperism, and of criminal justice, occasioned immediately by this cause, requires a draught on these very farmers far greater in amount than all their profits from distillers' markets, amounting to some two-thirds or three-fourths of all their taxes, and to many millions of dollars in the aggregate annually. We have already published a statement showing that the decreased reputation in Ohio pork in market, occasioned by the fact that a portion of it is known to be still fed, is not less than one dollar per barrel on the whole quantity raised and sold.

No reasoning can be more erroneous than to suppose that one considerable portion of the people may be permanently benefited at the expense of another portion. When general prosperity prevails, and schools, facilities for market, and neighborhood conveniences, are every where provided, society at large is constantly benefited in a way that could never take place in the midst of a debased and slipshod population. Many of our countrymen suffer a serious loss by allowing selfishness and narrowed enterprise to exert their constant influence over them. Could the feeling be more generally prevalent, that whatever promotes the general prosperity, never fails to re-act on individuals, it would certainly contribute largely to the benefit of all. The whole of this subject, embracing all its aspects, is eminently worthy of the consideration of the farming population of this country.

#### Cheap Cisterns.

I was induced to construct a cistern on my farm because I was told it could be done very cheaply, without plank or brick, and accordingly had one made in the fall of 1852, and I have found on trial that it answers the purpose, being very convenient to the kitchen.

The contractor agreed to make it for five dollars, exclusive of cement, and did so by constructing a funnel of sufficient size of red clay, wide at the top, and coming to a point at the bottom, this he coated with cement, which cost in this place four dollars, and the cistern was done, excepting the flooring and pump, which were an additional expense.

I am told there are cisterns on some of the farms of this county, made in this way, which have been in use ten or fifteen years, and are good yet. It is probable they may be in use in different parts of the country, but many may not know that they can have an abundant supply of rain-water at their kitchen doors for so small a sum. J. H. Carlisle, Pa.

#### Notes on Farming.

Messrs. Editors—Having been under your tuition for fourteen years. I wish to assure you of the gratifying results which have followed the reading of the Cultivator. I came on to my farm in 1839, which was one of the best wheat seasons we have had from that time to this; yet my wheat crop that year, of six acres, averaged but 13 bushels per acre. In 1852, I cut 12 acres, which averaged 19 bushels; and in 1853, 22 acres, which produced 263 bushels by measure and 278 bushels by weight of 60 lbs., or nearly 22 bushels per acre. If I had sowed all Mediterranean wheat, the average would have been three or four bushels more; but I had three acres of what is here called "Riley wheat," which was badly cut by the fly; and 2½ acres of a wheat that I would be glad to know the name of. It grew six feet high, with strong bright stem, broad leaf, light green, head broad and flat like barley, with long beard and large grains. It was eight days later than the Mediterranean, but entirely escaped the fly. This 2½ acres was not half thick enough on account of the seed having been badly broken by the threshing machine. Part of this crop was grown on land which has been cleared forty years, and was considered as worn-out when it came into my possession. I believe it was the best crop grown in this township last year on old land. John Conway had 30 acres of wheat on new ground, which averaged 43 bushels per acre, white wheat.

For wheat, I generally plow twice; once in June, and then in September, just before sowing. One advantage of plowing in June, is that the ground is then soft, and one pair of horses can plow 6 inches deep with ease, whereas in September, if the summer has been dry, it is hard work to plow three inches deep.

In a late number of the Cultivator, you instanced the good effects of digging clay from pits and spreading it over the surface. A neighbor of mine told me he practiced this in Ireland, with great advantage to the oat crop. You also stated that a man had said that he wished some one would haul three inches off the top of his land, as he knew that he had a better soil below. This is the opinion I had of my land, and I expected by plowing six inches deep, to turn down the three inches of worn-out top, and bring up three inches of a better soil. Then harrowing and plowing again, and harrowing again after sowing, will mix the two, and give an improved soil and greater depth. In place of hauling clay over the surface, I tell my boys, when plowing for wheat, to try to turn up some of the red clay sub-soil.

I want to make a comparison between my next neighbor, who I could never get to take the Cultivator. He always considered his farm superior to mine. He had the past season seven acres of wheat, and all it produced was 73 bushels. I had 14 acres of corn on one of the oldest fields, which produced 50 bushels per acre; his not the half of it. My corn got 246 wagon loads of manure. His wheat got some, but his corn very little. I feed all my hay and corn; he sells nearly all of his. I cut up all my corn, and feed fodder in the yard; he seldom cuts up any. JOHN J. CRAIG. North Madison, Ind.



## Letters on British Agriculture—X.

## FIELD CULTURE

AMHERST, Jan. 12, 1854.

L. TUCKER, Esq.—You could not travel through the counties of Great Britain, with an eye open to what her farmers are doing, without perceiving that great attention is given—more, I think, than with us—to bringing the soil to a fine tilth.

You would find, however, if you were to cross the British channel, and to spend a few weeks among the continental farmers, that some of the Belgians, if no others—excel the English in the depth and fineness, and almost perfect uniformity, with which they pulverize the soil previously to putting in the seed.

In speaking therefore of the *field culture* of British farmers—their *plowing*, *clod-crushing*, *harrowing*, *pulverizing* the soil finely, *mixing* it thoroughly, *distributing the manure evenly*—I am obliged to say, that, while they excel us, they are excelled by some at least of their neighbors; and as I before stated, that, if they would husband their home fertilizers as well as their Belgian neighbors do theirs, they would have less need to import guano; so I will now express a confident belief, that if they would work their fields as well as these same neighbors work theirs, they would need to import some millions of bushels less wheat. They have worked their fields *well*, and have received a *great* reward. They might have worked them *better*; and if they had, would have received a *greater* reward.

With them, labor is plenty and cheap; with us, it is scarce and dear; while on the other hand, produce is always higher there than here. These circumstantial differences have an important bearing on the question of applying labor plentifully in order to make the tilth perfect. Suppose you have a field essentially ready for sowing, plowed, harrowed and brought into a tolerable condition for receiving the seed, but such nevertheless, that another day's work to the acre would be likely to give an extra bushel of produce for each acre in the field. Shall the extra day's work be applied, with the hope of an extra bushel? This question might receive a different answer on the two sides of the water; for there the extra bushel would be pretty sure to be worth more than the day's work would cost, while here it would be about as sure to be worth less, and although I would not encourage careless tillage on the ground that produce will be low, yet I see not how the American farmer can afford to lavish as much labor on his fields as the English, or I would rather say, I see not why the English farmer should not apply more labor, and aim at a more perfect cultivation than the American, since the investment of the former is more in land and less in labor than that of the latter. I had reasoned thus before visiting England; and I was prepared to see a more perfect cultivation than I had seen at home. In this I was not disappointed. English field culture is better than American; and yet when we take into view the differences in the value of land and in the prices of labor and produce, it is not surprising that they are in advance of us. The wonder is rather that they are no more in advance, and when among them I could not but *think*, and was sometimes tempted to say, "*you are tall farmers, but we are as tall of our age.*"

Of the means for bringing the soil into good tilth—a thing about which you hear a great deal said by English farmers—I will speak in the order already indicated.

1. *Of Plowing.* In this I do not think they have the advantage over us. Of agricultural implements I intend to speak more fully in another place. I will only say here, that our plows are not more than half as heavy as theirs, cost about half as much, and will last nearly as long, but would be cheaper if they lasted only one year, so much lighter of draft are they, and so much more effective with an equal strength of

team. The tenacity with which Englishmen hold on to the old iron plow, a rod long, and heavy enough to load a pretty good team, irrespectively of all pressure from the soil, is truly wonderful. If you speak to them of these plows being heavy, they uniformly say, "Oh no, they are light," which I suppose means that in other times heavier plows were used, and that these are *comparatively* light. If so, the world is certainly "growing wiser" in one respect, and I hope it may grow wise fast; for I am very sure that with one of Ruggles, Nourse & Mason's plows, on any ground, light or heavy, stony or feasible, a span of horses, or a yoke of oxen, will do more work, and do it better, more easily for the team and for the plowman, than a three-cattle team with one of these long, heavy plows; and the difference in the expense of team-work and feed would be equal to the purchase of a beautiful Worcester plow for every 25 days' work of plowing to be done on a farm. Some English farmers, and more Scotch, are getting their eyes open to the advantages of using lighter implements, and I have no doubt that an important change in this respect will take place within a few years. At present, they are too apt to think, that, if an implement "*does its work well*," nothing more is to be required. I am inclined to think, that, by the time a few thousands more of laborers have fled to Australia or America, they will begin to think that something more should be required, than simply that an implement should "*do its work well*"—that it should do it economically of team strength, and with some regard to the comfort of the laborer.

Very much is said by English writers on agriculture, in favor of deep plowing. Cuthbert W. Johnson has written on this subject the best probably of any man living or dead. It would seem as if his writings must carry conviction to the mind of every practical farmer and of every thinking man. If he and other English writers have not demonstrated the benefit of a thorough pulverization of the soil to a great depth, then nothing agricultural ever was or ever can be demonstrated. And yet in practice I saw very little plowing more than six inches deep, much not above four or five, and considerable but three. Owing to the more northern latitude of England, to the more frequent rains and less sun, their soils seem to be heavier than those among us, which pass under the same names. For instance, what they call a sandy soil, appears about as heavy and nearly as tenacious as soils which we call loams; and what they call loams, appear to be nearly on a par in point of tenacity with what we should call clay soils. As a general thing, their soils are less friable and less easily worked than ours. Soils, which they denominate clayey, are exceedingly refractory, almost as hard in dry weather as brick, and so tough and clingy, when wet, that it is hardly possible to break up the furrows into any thing like a fine tilth. All this may, for aught I know, operate as a reason for shallow plowing; and I will not therefore undertake to say that they are wrong in every case in plowing but three, four, five, and seldom more than six inches deep; but I am quite certain that in our climate, with regard to a great majority of our lands at least, it would be a great piece of folly to plow no deeper. Nearly all the plowing which I saw there was what we should call shallow; and if it is deep enough for them, as I think it is not, it certainly is not for us. Their plowing, however, is done with extreme neatness. I have remarked in another place that in Scotland farms are generally subdivided into large fields, oblong in shape, giving long lands for the plow. Of some portions of England the same remark would be true; but of England generally and of Ireland, so far as my observations extended, the reverse is true—farms are subdivided into entirely too small lots; too many wide-spread hedges encumber the ground; and the work for the plow is too short, occupying nearly half the day in turning round those big, lumber-legged horses, harnessed as they are, more commonly than in a team, one before the other. Think

of three horses *tandem*, sometimes four even, hitched in no very compact order to a plow having a beam nearly as long as a rod-pole, and handles long enough to knock off chestnuts with! Electricity would get tired in going from one end to the other of such a team. And then think of putting "such a length" of team into a little, compact lot, nearly square, and surrounded by a hedge. If you could plow within 16 feet of the end of the lands you would do well. As for throwing the plow round, it would be impossible. The conquerer at Gaza would not be stout enough for that. But English plowmen always plow their head-lands crosswise. This accounts very well for the plowing of the whole field except the corners; and how in the name of common sense those are plowed I never could learn; for though I saw thousands of plowmen at the regular through work of the fields, and often entered the lots and went the rounds with them, chatting as we went, and observing the straightness and evenness of their work, yet as long as I was in England, nearly six months, I never saw a head-land plowed. I could see everywhere that they had been plowed, and that the work was done neatly to the very corners; but how, or when, I could not divine, unless St. Nicholas, pitying the plowman as much as he loves the children, comes with a shorter team and does up that part of the work in the night. I was the more inclined to take this view, from the fact that as often as I made inquiry, which was many times, I was always turned off with the reply, that there was not the least difficulty; whereas it appeared to me about as difficult as it would be to descend and reascend all the chimneys in christendom in one night. I can understand how the Irish girl can (don't) sweep out the corner of a room—the broom gives a little, shapes itself to the place; but how the long iron plow, used so much in England, can be got into the corner of a hedged field is among the *mysteries*, to me unrevealed. All I know is that it gets there and does the work handsomely, unless it be done in the night under the agency before surmised. English fields are everywhere plowed with wonderful neatness. The furrows are cut with almost perfect equality of width and depth. It contributes not a little to this, that their fields are old; have been under cultivation thousands of years; and were either free from stones originally, or have been cleared. It contributes to the perfection of the work also, that plowing is there a regular subdivision of farm labor, a sort of trade by itself, so that the laborer who plows, does nothing else but plow—plows nearly all the year, and thus acquires great skill in that branch of labor. And it cannot be denied that the great length of the team and plow contributes to the straightness of the work. You often see furrows, in which you cannot detect a bend, whole fields indeed without a crooked furrow in them. But it is perfectly manifest that undeviating straightness of furrows is a sort of a *whistle* for which you may pay too dear. So far as it is attained by the skill of the plowman it is well; but if it be procured by an addition of thirty-three per cent. to the necessary expense for team work, then it costs more than it is worth.

Science has pretty clearly indicated that the soil should be loosened to a great depth; that air and water should have a free circulation from fifteen to twenty inches instead of from three to five; and that roots should have no obstruction to running downwards to regions of equable temperature and moisture. What Science indicates, should, in this case, as in all others, be tested by careful experiment. I would go so far even, as to say, that nothing should be regarded as settled, till the practical farmer can put his seal to it. This matter of deep plowing is *proved* to be good policy. Farmers, here and there, all over the British Islands, have practiced it for many years—have plowed eight or nine inches deep, sub-soiled as much deeper, and reported to the world the great benefit. Other farmers have heard their story. Nearly all have

learned to talk well on the subject. As happens in many other cases, their *practice* is not as good as their *talk* would lead you to expect. With the isolated exceptions before alluded to, their plowing is beautiful, straight, even, making a perfect *corduroy*, but not sufficiently deep.

2. *Clod-crushing*. If Samuelson's digger, so much applauded by Mr. Mechi, or any other implement calculated for tearing up the ground in small fragments, shall drive the plow from the field, as that distinguished farmer seems to expect, there may then be no necessity for a Crosskill's Clod-crusher, nor for any similar implement. But so long as the essential *principle* of plowing—that of inverting the turf in long strips over a mould-board—shall be in operation, another process will be wanted, in order to break the turf into short pieces, and at the same time to crush the pieces, and to crumble the earth away from the grass roots. All these ends I suppose to be gained by the use of the Clod-crusher. The turf is cut into short pieces; these pieces are finely crushed; the grass roots are dislodged from their hold on the soil; and the grass is put into a condition to be so separated from the soil by the harrow as to die out. This business of clod-crushing is more important in the damp climate of Great Britain than among us, because there the mere covering of grass, owing to a want of heat in the soil, is not as sure to kill it as here; nor will buried sods as readily ferment and give their nutriment to the crops.

3. *Of Harrowing*. This branch of field culture is "done up" in fine style by English farmers, almost uniformly. It is hardly possible to conceive any thing more beautiful than their fields, when the work of harrowing is completed. I observed that in France and in Belgium, harrows with wooden teeth are much used. In either of those countries it is very common to see a man working three horses, each horse attached to a harrow with something like forty or fifty wooden teeth. The horses are trained to the business perfectly. The man walks along the line between the harrowed and the unharrowed land. The first horse walks by his side, without being led, and about three feet distant. The second horse follows the off side of the first harrow; and the third horse follows the off side of the second harrow, which produces a lap of about half the width of each harrow on the ground gone over by the one proceeding. But the harrows in England, so far as I noticed, had iron teeth, were much heavier than those in France and Belgium, and required more than one horse to draw them. Many of them were made wholly of iron, and were very heavy; but they certainly have the merit of "doing their work well."

4. Although English farmers do not plow as deeply as I am confident is for our interest to plow, nor as deeply as their own theory seems to demand, for they are always talking in praise of deep plowing, yet they have the merit of working over the soil, so far as it has been loosened up by the plow, admirably well, of pulverizing it as finely as its character permits, of mixing its parts thoroughly together, and of distributing the manure evenly throughout the whole. Their success is no doubt attributable in part to this trait in their husbandry.

I ought perhaps to speak of a process, which, with them, often precedes that of the plow. It is what they call *scarifying*. It consists in cutting over the ground, so as to sever the grass from its roots, just below the surface; and it is done, in some cases, with the scarifier, a sort of mammoth horse-hoe, but more generally with the ordinary plow. The grass and weeds thus cut are afterwards raked into heaps, and subsequently either burned, or carried to the barn-yard for manure. The object is to cleanse fields, which, from having too seldom produced hoe-crops, have become foul. When the operation is performed with the plow, it is done by turning furrows as wide and as shoal as possible, thus cutting over the whole surface and burying the grass to the least possible depth, in order that it may first



be smothered and then dried up. After a few days, the harrow is applied, which separates the grass from the soil and rolls it up into a kind of rope-like wads, in which state it is easily raked together for burning or being carted off. This leaves the ground beautifully prepared for the plow.

The reader may ask, as I did many times, without ever being fully satisfied with the answer returned, "Why not plow this grass under—bury it so deep that it will never be heard from again?" The answer was uniformly the following or something like it:—"We know not how it may be in your dryer climate, but, with us, *burying grass will not kill it*." Indeed one of Mr. Mechi's principal reasons for preferring Samuelson's Digger to the "doomed plow," as he says the plow is "doomed," is, that it leaves the greatest wads on the surface, where, he says, there is a chance for them to die, while, if plowed under, they are nearly sure to live. I could not but think that our double, Michigan plow would bury even these semi-immortal grasses, so much complained of in English fields, beyond the possibility of ever coming again *alive* into the "upper light." But English farmers think otherwise; and if they are right in believing that nothing but five, or a six months' trampling in the barn-yard, will kill their grasses, it only shows one of the many characteristic differences between farming in their climate and ours.

Several French farmers, whose fields I visited, practice a sort of scarifying, but very different from that of the English, and, as they explain the matter, for a very different reason. The work is done, so far as I saw, with the common plow. It consists in cutting a very thin slice, two inches perhaps on one side and running to an edge on the other, some 10 or 12 inches wide, and turning it upon an equal unplowed width—cutting and covering, as we should say. Their object seems to be, not so much to kill the grass, for, in their sunny land, it would die fast enough if turned under, but to subject it to a partial decay before being buried more deeply, in order that it may the sooner undergo a complete decomposition, and thus give up its elements to the coming crop. This is done, from 10 to 15 days, depending a little upon what the weather may be, before the final plowing and harrowing for winter grain. The reasoning, by which they sustain this course, seemed to me rather ingenious than solid: for I believe there is very little danger, in a sunny climate, like that of France, or our own, but that any thing in the way of green crops will be decomposed soon enough after being turned under: and if so, that slattering, half-way plowing, of which I have spoken (enough to make an American farmer ache all over to see) must have more of labor than of profit in it.

Respectfully yours,

J. A. NASH.

#### Important Suggestions about Grasses, &c.

MESSRS. EDITORS—The farmers are very unlike the gardeners in one respect, *e. g.*, in endeavoring to secure the greatest number of species of plants for cultivation, and why is this? We see horticulturists zealously searching every land for new and rare species, gathering them from every clime, and at any expense, while the agriculturist is content to cultivate but a small number of those that are adapted to his soil and his wants.

Experience and observation show that the larger the number of species cultivated, (unless the number be *very* high,) the better they can be grown. The same field is not sown with the same crop for a long series of years, but with different ones in rotation. Change of seed is often attended with profitable results, even in merely changing the varieties of the same

species. In the face of this, why are not more species cultivated on the same farm? It would be perfectly practical on the larger ones.

In this State but a very few kinds of grass seed are sown besides the common herds-grass (*Phleum pratense*,) for the production of hay or pasture; many others are found, but their presence is purely *accidental*. I do not allude to clover, as that is not a *grass*, strictly speaking.

Besides many rare kinds, more than sixty species of grass are spoken of by botanists, as "common" in the New England, Middle and Western States, and a large number of these are found in pasture lands self-propagated, as the term is. Their seeds are not sown, nor is care taken to cultivate them, although many are considered valuable for pasturage, and are well known to most farmers.

I was pleased and interested in seeing a collection of grass seeds in the English Department in the Crystal Palace, New-York, a short time since. There were represented some twenty-five species of grass seeds, several of which are unknown to our American farmers, which might possibly prove valuable here, to cultivate alone, or mixed with those we now have. Among these were five species of spear grass, (*Poa*.) Over twenty species of this genus are found in our pastures, imparting to some great value. Still they are left to propagate themselves; there is no care whatever taken to preserve them. Among seven species of fescue grass, (*Festuca*.) four were species unknown here, and if introduced might prove as valuable as some of those we now have in our sheep pastures.

By the same exhibitor were also shown seeds of four species of clover, (*Trifolium*.) We cultivate but one, the red, although white and yellow are by no means uncommon or unimportant. Also many species and varieties of grain, some of which we are unacquainted with. In the collection were nearly fifty varieties of peas, nearly forty of beans, and over thirty of turneps, &c.

In this connection I saw last summer, a new species of clover from California, said to be indigenous to that country, that bids fair to be of value in our clover districts. Time, however, must test that, for I am well aware that many very promising species soon degenerate in our climate and soils.

I think this a subject worthy of more attention than it has hitherto received from the mass of our farmers, and hence call attention to it, as a field from which we may yet reap rich harvests. Your ob't serv't, WM. H. BREWER. *Ovid, N. Y., Jan., 1854.*

P. S. I see in your last number, an inquiry relating to the propriety of laying blocks of wood in cellar walls, (p. 56.) and your answer is, that such blocks will last a very long time if excluded from dampness. Now this is a condition not to be attained in cellar walls, for mortar, whether of water lime, or of common lime, is permeable to moisture and air, and such blocks soon decay unless they have undergone some chemical preparation to prevent this; if placed in walls above ground they might last longer. W. H. B.

### Draining Ponds.

I have rented a farm for five years; nearly all the tillable land is creek bottom, sandy, and usually overflowed every year. But the up-land is clay with a slight mixture of sand; the subsoil, quicksand, about six feet from the surface. In this there are two ponds of about an acre each. One of them I can drain with a blind ditch. Will it pay me to ditch it? The other pond is so situated that I cannot drain it by ditching. I have thought of digging two or three wells down to the quicksand, and curbing it in with timber. Would that be likely to secure the object? T. LOWRY. *Rockville, Indiana.*

Our correspondent has not furnished sufficient data for an answer; so we must answer conditionally. If the pond, when drained, will be likely to furnish a fine bed of rich arable soil, five years' rent of which will probably exceed in value the cost of the ditch, then of course it will pay draining, but not otherwise. This we cannot determine until we know the depth, length, and labor of cutting the ditch, and the yearly value of good land in that region.

If the quicksand is so porous and dry at all seasons of the year, that water will always soak away rapidly in it, then the cutting a well through the basin of the other pond into this bed of quicksand, will effect drainage. Otherwise, it will not.

### Preparation of Bones for Use.

MESSRS. EDITORS—The best and cheapest method of preparing bones for manure, is first, to boil them in strong ley, a few hours, to extract from them the animal matter, or what would be more convenient perhaps, break them as fine as convenient, and put them into a tub of ley to remain there during pleasure, until the animal matter is all extracted and incorporated with the ley.—The mineral part of the bones will now be found very friable and easily pulverized. They should be rinsed clean, pulverized and put into another tub or trough.—Apply to them some diluted sulphuric acid, in the proportion of one of acid to four or five of water. Stir them frequently, and in a short time, they will be entirely decomposed and fitted for use. These two masses, being equally rich in the elements of fertility, the one of ammonia and the other of phosphorus, are equally valuable as fertilizers, and adapted to any and every variety of soil that may be deficient in these elements, and equally necessary for the healthful maturity of every growing plant, whether of grain, grasses, fruits or roots. I would now advise a mixture of these two masses with the general compost, to secure a general diffusion of them upon the different fields to be manured. My reason for the general diffusion of these masses, upon the different fields is, first, every plant needs them. Secondly, the farmer's resources, in this line, will be mainly within himself. This will be true of all those that live at a distance from villages and cities. Their resources must therefore be small. Thirdly, the elements of the bone, both the animal and mineral, were taken from the different fields, and should, therefore, be returned to the same fields. To keep up the fertility of each field, it is necessary to return to it annually, the same elements that are taken away. The farmer may

secure a larger crop of any kind, on any field, by robbing other fields of the same elements of fertility to enrich that one. But such a policy would not only be bad, but ruinous if pursued. Yours most respectfully.  
J. L. EDGERTON. *Georgia, Vt., Jan. 14, 1854.*

### Cow-Milkers—Bommer's Manure.

Please give a description of the Patent Cow-Milker advertised in some of the back volumes of the Cultivator; also your opinion of Bommer's patent for making Manure and price of receipt. C. *West Greenville, Pa.*

We suppose our correspondent refers to the tubes made for entering the orifice of the udder, and kept in their place by gutta-percha cases round the teats. The tube keeps the udder open, and the milk flows out. This, in substance, is an old method, as we can well remember in childhood the practice of mischievous boys in thrusting straws or the barrels of a small quill up the udder, to save them the labor of milking,—a few repetitions always causing an opening so permanent, that large quantities of milk escape and waste during the intervals between milkings. These cow-milkers are therefore worse than useless.

Bommer's patent manure is made by erecting a square pile of straw, stalks, leaves, and other dry vegetable matter, at the side of a vat or reservoir. Liquid manure from the vat is pumped repeatedly on the pile, causing its fermentation. The pile is built on rails and brush, so as to drain freely, and admit the air from below. All surplus drainage passes off into the vat. The liquid manure is made by mixing night soil, and other rich materials with water, adding gypsum, with some lime, ashes, salt, &c., and stable washings. Bommer published a useful pamphlet on making manure, not now in market. The patent is generally thought not to be valid.

### Fattening Animals with Cod-liver Oil.

The London Lancet gives an account of a series of experiments made by Dr. JAMES POLLOCK upon fattening animals with cod oil. They were conducted upon a large scale, and he found that pigs taking the oil ate less meal, weighed the heaviest, and brought most money per stone in the London market, the fat being firm and white. He fed from two ounces to a quarter of a pint daily, with good results; but when larger quantities were used the fat became yellow and the flesh tasted fishy. He states that when sheep were fed one ounce a day the fat was beautifully white, and the flesh light and easy of digestion, and gave general satisfaction to the consumers. The experiments with bullocks had been equally satisfactory. He feeds the bullocks oil mixed up with meal and chaff; the pigs have it mixed with dry meal; the sheep have split beans soaked in oil. The commonest oil costs in England from 2s. 8d. to 3s per gallon, and the saving of expense is very considerable. Dr. Pollock also says that the relief to a broken-winded horse from the administration of cod oil, is very soon perceptible.

Whether these experiments are of any practical value to farmers in this country or not, they are interesting inasmuch as they show the importance of studying the application and physiological action of different food, and oils, on the animal system.



### Plans laid in Winter.

There are many of the smaller, but almost indispensable conveniences of a farm, that are scarcely ever all present in one establishment; many, indeed, being destitute of most of them, and the best farms being perhaps deficient in a few. The farmer has leisure in winter to look over these deficiencies, and may often either supply them at this season, or make partial provision for them, or lay his plans for securing them in summer.

FOR EXAMPLE—Every farm should have gates for entering the fields instead of bars. Some farmers are sufficiently ingenious to make these with their own hands, in winter.

Every farm should have a good road or lane from the barn-yard to every field, so that loads of manure or grain may not require drawing across a meadow or corn-field, nor cattle need driving to pasture through a wheat-field.

The fences should be so good that cattle may never be tempted nor learned to jump; that crops may not be trodden down by intruders, nor valuable animals foundered; and that the urgent time of the farmer in harvest may not be consumed in driving out depredators and in patching up the imperfect boundary. Difficulties between neighbors from intrusive animals will perhaps be recollected by some,—where a good fence has proved a *defence*—a bad one an *offense*.

A capacious wood-house, for the thorough seasoning of at least one year's fuel, is indispensable. Two, for one year each, are better, one to be filling while the other is emptying. Or if only one is built, a door should be placed at each end, so that the dry may be taken out at one door, while the green is carried in at the other.

Capacious rain-water cisterns should be provided for all the principal buildings, so that there may be room for at least five hogsheds of water for every ten feet square (100 sq. feet) of roof, in order that no rain-water may be lost, and which is at least five times as capacious as cisterns are commonly made. Such would save much trouble in times of severe drouth.

Every farm, besides a barn and dwelling, should be furnished with a tool-house, wagon-house, work-shop, corn-house, granary, smoke-house, manure shed, cattle sheds, poultry house, a good, neatly made and neatly kept piggery, a neat vegetable cellar, a fruit cellar, a straw-barn, a business office, a clothes-drying alley, a large root cellar, and lastly, but by no means the least in importance, neat, well-painted, (both internally and externally,) and nicely kept *privies*, so arranged as to be kept inodorous by frequent applications of ashes, lime-dust, dried peat, saw-dust or charcoal, kept in a flat, water-tight, gas-tarred box, placed on runners, so as to be drawn off frequently by a horse, and emptied.

Besides the foregoing, the good kitchen-garden must not be forgotten, to be well supplied with the smaller fruits, currants, strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, and dwarf pears, as well as with the finest early, medium, late and winter vegetables; nor the neat door-

yard lawn, judiciously and tastefully planted with ornamental trees and shrubs, and occupying not merely the front of the dwelling, but extending on each side, so that the occupant may not be frightened if the casual visitor chances to cast a glance on any other side of the house than the front. The well planted and well cultivated orchard, for supplying fresh fruit the year round to the table and kitchen, as well as for market, will suggest itself to every intelligent farmer at the present remarkable fruit-planting and fruit-eating era.

### Application of Manure.

MESSRS. EDITORS—It is somewhat remarkable that there should exist so great a diversity of opinion among farmers upon so important a subject as that of applying manure, *i. e.* whether in a green state or well decomposed compost—whether on the top of the ground, or buried underneath the surface by the action of the plow. Why may not this subject be in some way *definitely settled* by the action of some of our numerous agricultural societies, so that we may not be left to the Yankee prerogative of *guessing*, as to the most profitable course. My own course has been for years invariably to put my fine manure on or near the surface; and the long entirely out of sight with the plow.

In regard to the long manure so used, we do not of course get very much benefit from it until the second season; but its tendency is, I think, to leave the ground in a light and friable state, and in good condition to receive a crop of clover.

Do, Messrs. Editors, be kind enough to give us your opinion on this matter; and I would also be pleased to have your readers who have had experience in this matter, give us the result. WM. J. PETTEE. *Lakeville, Conn., Jan. 16, 1854.*

For our views on this subject, see the 51st No. of the *Country Gentleman*, or the *Cultivator* for January.

### Kentucky Blue Grass

MOUNT IDA, Ky., January 10th, 1854.

MESSRS. EDITORS—In the last number of the *Country Gentleman*, I notice that a subscriber wishes to know if Kentucky blue grass would do well on lands that are permitted to remain five or six years in pasture, and then plowed two years, and then laid down again to pasture. I am a Kentucky farmer of but very little experience, yet I know this would not answer at all. It takes blue grass three or four years to become well set, and then it would scarcely do to graze it down, especially in wet weather or in loose wet soil, as it is too easily pulled up until it is well-rooted. In six years it would make the best pasture, and just then the farmer would wish to cultivate his land two years, and would lose his labor and have the same to go through in order to reseed his land. Our farmers seldom sow blue grass on open land, unless they wish their fields to lay in grass ten or twelve years, their best blue grass being in woods pasture. We find nothing equal to Timothy or Red Clover, mixt half and half; it takes less time to set, and is of more advantage to the ground than any other grass crop. Where can I get the genuine Cuba tobacco seed? A SUBSCRIBER.

### Potato Culture—Soils—Bones.

Mr. P. PRATT, of Deep River, (Ct.) says, "After all that has been said and written about the potato rot, I think I know well the cause and the preventive. Potatoes have rotted for ages, when covered with water before ripe, and lately, when enveloped in mud, which fills them with water, and prevents the tuber discharging its impurities. But the first great cause is a hereditary disease, arising from bad cultivation and a want of the right material in the soil. The potato has been robbed of what is essential to its composition, in the soil, by the cultivation of wheat, corn, oats, buckwheat, &c.; and stable manure will not supply what is needed. In most cases, new land from the forest is perfect soil for the various crops; and, as far as I can learn, potatoes are invariably sound on new land, especially if burned over. Wheat grew abundantly in this region when first cleared up; but the richest land will not grow it now. The peach does poorly on long cultivated land in this region, but grows finely, for 30 years, on land not cultivated before. We had the finest field strawberries, in my boyhood, 60 years ago, but they are all minus now.

"About 20 years since, I manured a piece of ground with ivory dust from my comb-factory, and with yard manure, and with bone dust fermented with ashes. It has since been divided into two large gardens. It has had potatoes on it ever since, Mercers and others, and they have been sound and good. I do not suppose that ivory, or bone dust, is the only thing that will answer; but I contend that something is necessary to restore what is taken from a perfect soil.

"As to whether I am right respecting the potato—if you find the analyses of a potato grown on new, wood soil, of one grown on old soil where they have rotted, and the soil of each, it will settle the question.

"Your reply by mail, or through the Country Gentleman, will be thankfully received; and I am willing to reciprocate the favor; or if expense is necessary, in analyzing, I am willing to satisfy you for the trouble."

We have copied so much of P. P.'s letter as relates to the potato; and with regard to it we remark:

1. If P. P. knows well the "cause and the preventive," he should diffuse his knowledge; for it is of vast importance to the whole civilized world.

2. We like P. P.'s reasoning. We think it goes far towards establishing his main positions, first, that the cause is "a hereditary disease," and, second, that the preventive will be found to be the restoring to the soil what has been taken from a perfect soil.

3. It is not convenient for us to make at this season of the year, nor to procure the analysis which P. P. desires. They should be made in autumn, soon after the potato crop is harvested; and we now suggest to analytical chemists, that if they will analyze a sample from the sound crop of a virgin field, another sample from a crop grown on an old field where many have rotted, and a sample of each of the soils, important and valuable conclusions may be reached.

4. It is a question whether P. P.'s manuring with ivory dust, yard manure, and bone dust fermented with ashes, has had much to do with the soundness of his crop for the last twenty years. It may have had. The ivory dust would be likely to operate slowly, and consequently somewhat permanently; and the bone dust fermented with ashes, and applied to the soil, without the addition of sulphuric acid, (by which it would have been changed to quickly acting super-phosphate of lime,) would also be likely to act slowly and permanently. Possibly the effects of that dressing may have lasted twenty years, though we could hardly believe it. Bones coarsely broken and spread upon pasture have been known to manifest the most marked effects for a quarter of a century; but when bones are heated with ashes, they fall into an exceedingly fine, minute division, in which the effect would be likely to be quicker than if they were only broken in a mill, but not as quick as if they were changed by sulphuric acid from a phosphate to a super-phosphate of lime, the super-phosphate being quickly, and the phosphate slowly, soluble in water.

5. We will add, that we know a gentleman, who for eight years has manured potatoes with bones fermented in ashes, has had good crops uniformly, and not one of them has rotted; but unfortunately for the conclusion to which he would have been glad to come, he has planted other potatoes every one of these eight years, with all sorts of manure, and some without any manure, and neither have one of these rotted, with the exception of a very few, where no manure was put.

The bones, in the case just alluded to, were treated thus: In a large family, consuming much butchers' meat, the bones were thrown into a hogshead from day to day; ashes, as taken from the fires daily, were thrown upon them; enough water to keep the whole moist and to prevent the gases escaping was added from time to time, the falling rains generally being sufficient, as the hogshead was placed in the open air, away from all buildings. When one hogshead was full, another was taken, (old sugar hogsheads.) The bones, treated in this way, retained their form and size, but became soft, so as to be easily cut through with a shovel, and rubbed down with the back of the shovel into powder with some extra ashes or dry earth. The oily matter of the bones, together with the potash of the ashes, and the water thrown on, becomes a saponaceous mass, and the phosphate of lime in the harder parts of the bones is diffused through the soapy mass in a state of exceedingly fine division. Bones thus fermented in ashes are exceedingly valuable for potatoes and for Indian corn, and probably for nearly all crops. There is reason, from actual trial, to believe that the effect on the land is permanent, lasting at least several years. N.

ANOTHER REPORT FROM "CHERRY."—There was made from the milk of the cow, Cherry, now four years old, owned by Miss Mary Brice, New Scotland, in this county, from Nov. 19 to Dec. 19, 1853, 46 lbs. 4 oz. of butter, being over one and a half pounds per day. She was in fresh milk, having recently dropped her calf.



### Water Pipes.

"I am desirous of ascertaining at what expense I can best bring water from a spring to my house, barn, &c., a distance of about 200 rods. Can pipe of water lime be laid for the purpose, so as to be permanent, and if so at what depth, and at what expense per rod? Where can it be obtained? And what is the most economical mode of bringing water? Yours, S. D. T. Fergussonville, Jan. 9."

Water-pipes have been made of water-lime mortar laid in the bottom of a ditch, round a cylindrical rod, which is gradually and carefully withdrawn as the mortar hardens, and as the work progresses. This, when well hardened, is eminently durable, and we do not see why it may not last forever. The only objections are, when withdrawing the rod, there is danger of causing slight cracks in the mortar; and, like all other underground pipes, sediment may be deposited at the lowest places, which after a time will choke the tube.

To prevent the deposit of sediment, the slope should if possible be uniform, and if the descent is considerable, this care will prevent all danger. Great care should be taken, also, that the water runs clear into the upper end of the tube, which of itself will nearly remove all liability to this difficulty, especially if it is made to filter through a partition of coarse sand.

To prevent the cracks in the water-cement, an improvement has been lately introduced, which scarcely if any increases the cost, and renders the construction of the channel easy, rapid, and certain. It consists simply in bedding *tubular tile*, such as is used for draining, in a bed of water-lime mortar, laid in the bottom of the ditch. Two-inch tile is sold for about 15 cents per rod at the manufactory. A sufficient quantity for the 200 rods would weigh nearly three tons—from which our correspondent may estimate the cost of conveyance by railway and team from the nearest tile-factory. Digging the ditch will cost more or less, according to the nature of the soil, and the depth required to descend beyond all possible action of the frost, but may be estimated at an average of 20 cents per rod.

The water-lime may be had at any considerable market town; and if sand is convenient, the cost of the mortar will not usually exceed 20 cents more per rod, enough to encase the pipe an inch in thickness. From fifty to seventy-five cents a rod would doubtless cover all expenses—varying with soil, climate, cost of tile, cement, and sand. This is scarcely a third or a quarter of the cost of a lead-pipe channel, sufficiently large for safety, and which would have the additional objection of danger from a solution of the poisonous material.

The bottom of the ditch should be cut with a narrow ditching-spade so as not to exceed four or five inches wide, as this would contribute to both convenience and economy, in depositing the mortar around the tube. It should be understood that the tile should be completely imbedded in the cement; and if from crossing low places, any degree of pressure from a head of water should occur, greater thickness in its application should be used; for the tile is not only in some measure porous in its texture but is not strong enough to resist

much internal force. Where the head is great, as for example in crossing a deep valley, strong lead pipe may become indispensable.

### Reels for Reapers.

Having bought a reaping machine last season without a reel, and finding it desirable to have one, and no one in this vicinity having any knowledge of them, I would inquire through the Cultivator, how fast the reel should revolve, i. e., what should be the relative velocity between the circumference of the reel and that of the driving wheel.

If it is not too much trouble I should like to see in the Cultivator a description of the new reel with sliding arms, what are its advantages, &c. I am unacquainted with the practical working of the reaper, but believe it is common for rakers when raking the grain from the machine to make it (i. e. the grain,) describe a quarter circle, so that the bundle lays across the swath instead of lengthwise. Why is this necessary? P. P. P.

The backward velocity of the outside of the reel, that is, of the horizontal bars or blades which strike the standing grain, should be nearly the same, but a little greater than the velocity of the whole machine forwards. It will thus hold the grain to its place while the blades are shearing it off, and at the same time give it a stroke backwards, so as to throw it, when cut, upon the platform. The precise difference in these two velocities, for the best practical effect, we are unable to give, but suppose it should be about  $\frac{1}{4}$ th increase.

The advantages of the new reel with sliding arms carrying the rake, as we understand it, are in keeping the rake in close contact with the platform while sweeping the newly cut grain from it—as a circular motion of the rake would not clean the flat platform.

The revolving of the rake upon the reel, is for the purpose merely of depositing the heaps more neatly, and is especially necessary when the heaps are to be thrown off at the side instead of directly behind.

### Posts heaving by Frost.

I have observed in clayey soils that are so heavy and tenacious as to prevent the water from draining off, the frost has more power on fence posts, by drawing them out of the ground. Is there no remedy against the frost, by placing some substance round the post, such as coarse sand, gravel, coal, ashes, or tanner's bark? F. McKAY. Nova Scotia.

Placing gravel or coarse sand around the post would lessen or obviate the evil, if it were not that the clay about these substances holds water like a tub, and keeps them filled, so that in freezing the difficulty is not removed. If an underdrain were cut directly under the fence, or close at its side, the moisture from this sand and gravel-packing would of course be immediately carried off, and the remedy prove efficient. Tan would affect ready drainage into the ditch; but would not hold a post firmly. Such a drain would pay for itself by its improvement of the adjacent land, besides its beneficial use to the fence. Where this remedy cannot be properly applied, and indeed in all cases whatever, a most effectual help in preventing the upheaval of posts, is to bore a two-inch auger-hole near the bottom, and into this drive a pin of durable wood,

so that it may project several inches each way, at right angles to the post, and when the earth is rammed about it, will hold the post firmly in the ground and prevent its rising by frost.

#### Gas-Tar.

I wish to be informed through the Country Gentleman what coal-tar is—the article used on the roofs of buildings. Would this substance be of any use applied to wooden fence posts to preserve the part set in the ground from rotting? A SUBSCRIBER. Windsor county, Vt.

Gas or Coal-Tar is the refuse tar from gas-works. Two or three coats, well dried, act as a powerful preservative of all wooden substances to which it is applied; and from the experiments we have made, with wooden surfaces constantly exposed to moisture, we have no doubt it would be valuable on fence posts—certainly more so than *charring*, which after all, admits moisture through the charcoal—this would not admit it. Gas-tar, under soil, is said to be gradually decomposed; but if well dried previously, the process would certainly be very slow.

#### Spring Wheat.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Will you have the kindness to answer me the following questions through your valuable paper, the Country Gentleman? What kind of soil is required to raise spring wheat? (a) Will limestone soil answer? How many bushels are required to be sown upon the acre, and at what time should it be sown? (b) And how many bushels are generally raised to the acre, and what is the general price for it in the New-York market, (c) it not being raised in this part of the country. By answering the above questions you will confer a favor upon A NEW SUBSCRIBER. Easton, Pa.

(a) The same soil that will bring good winter wheat or good barley—what is usually termed “limestone,” soil will doubtless answer well.

(b) About a bushel and a half seed should be sown per acre, as early in spring as it is possible to get the soil in good condition.

(c) Twenty bushels per acre is a fair crop—the price is about one “York shilling” less on the bushel than good winter wheat.

#### Churning by Steam Power.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I wish to obtain information on the application of steam power to churning. I have usually churned by means of water power, but that frequently fails at the season of the year I most need it. I wish to know whether steam power is in use in any of the large dairies, and what the opinion is in relation to its safety and utility as compared with other modes. And also what the cost will be of an engine with the necessary fixtures of sufficient power to churn the milk of forty cows. Also where such engine can be obtained. A NEW SUBSCRIBER. Geneganslet, N. Y., Jan. 18.

Engines intended for farming purposes have been made for sale by HOARD & Co. of Watertown, N. Y. The price of a portable engine of half a horse power, is \$75; one horse power, \$150, and at a similar rate for other sizes. We have not known their use for dairies merely; in ordinary cases, a single horse would be found most convenient; where an engine sufficient for

thrashing, wood-sawing, &c., is used, it would be so large as to prove a waste perhaps, of power for churning.

We do not look for the immediate introduction of steam power on farms in this country. In England, where horses are costly, and where coal is abundant, engines for thrashing, winnowing, cutting straw and hay, grinding grain, &c., &c., have been introduced to some extent on large farms; but most of the attempts here have failed. The proposition to assist their introduction by adding the *plow* to the objects of their force, will certainly prove a failure; for if, as is now the case, it is found here most economical, without one exception in ten thousand, to apply *horse power* to thrashing, and other *stationary* farm machinery, the difference in favor of the latter must be still greater, when the constant locomotion of a heavy engine is required over soft ground, wasting a large portion of its power, besides its effective force in working.

#### Farming in Bristol, Vt.

MESSRS. EDITORS—With your permission, I propose to give the readers of the Country Gentleman, (a paper which ought to be in the hands of every one who tills the soil,) a few ideas of farming in this vicinity. We can cultivate almost any crop to advantage, provided we keep the soil in good heart, without being at too great an outlay to entirely destroy the profits. Our staple crop is Indian corn. We generally plow the land in the spring, to the depth of five or six inches, turning under a good coat of manure. Sometimes the manure is spread on after the ground is plowed, and harrowed in. Which is the best method, I am unable to say. There are various opinions about it; but the most of our farmers adopt the former method.

There should be several rules laid down before undertaking to cultivate this crop. The first should be a good high fence around it, to protect it from unruly cattle; secondly, to have the land in good condition, and thirdly, to have a good variety of seed. With these conditions, if well cultivated, we may expect good crops.

Ashes, lime and plaster are used as fertilizers; generally put on the hill.

To succeed this crop, oats are generally sown, and are profitable to the farmer if properly cultivated. If we should manure the land for this crop as we do for other grain, we should not hear as much about the oat crop being so exhausting to the land. After this crop is taken, winter grain is sown with grass seed. Then the land is laid down, either to pasture or meadow.

There is one part of good husbandry that we do not practice to any extent, that would be a most important item in farm economy, where land is as high as it is in this section of country. That is, soiling cattle and horses. By introducing the practice of soiling, a considerable saving of land will be effected. One acre of cut grass, or corn, sown with about three bushels per acre, will be equal to three or four of pasture. There is also a great saving in the quantity of food consumed as well as a greater variety of plants eaten.



When animals are suffered to go upon the field, many plants are necessarily trodden under foot and bruised, or partly buried in the earth. In this state they are greatly disrelished by cattle, and are suffered to run to waste. This circumstance never could occur if the practice of cutting were adopted. Cattle will eat with great avidity many plants, if cut and given to them in the yard, which they never would touch while growing in the field. It is well known that when animals are exposed to the sun in the open air, they are not only greatly incommoded on many occasions by the heat, but are also annoyed by swarms of flies, gnats and hornets, which obviously tends to impede their thriving. The proportionate increase of manure obtained by this system evinces its superiority over pasturing; and manure is the life and soul of good farming. This manure no doubt is as good as that which is produced in winter. Cows fed in this way will give a greater quantity of milk, and increase in weight faster than when they run in the field. They are less subject to injuries, and do not suffer by the heat. JOHN MCKEE. *Bristol, Vt.*

#### Theories and Experience—Root Culture.

MESSEURS. EDITORS—I have read carefully the communication of G. E. H. in a late number of the Country Gentleman, entitled "Theories and Experience." A subscriber to your weekly paper, and a constant reader of it, I acknowledge that I have failed to find any evidence in its columns of a restricted policy, and should be very sorry to see it committed to any position adverse to either theoretical or experimental truth. A practical farmer, I feel daily the want of more light. From whatever quarter it may come, I would receive it gratefully.

But I cannot do without theories. Every experiment is a step into the unknown, and must be based on some assumption. I have had for every real acre of my farm, a corresponding imaginary or theoretical one for years. The theoretical condition of these acres has never been just their *actual* condition, nor do I believe that it ever will be; and yet I think that year after year the newer theory is a little nearer the truth. Again, these notions are a little different from those held by (so far as I know,) anybody else. Now after frankly admitting that these conceits are undoubtedly erroneous in many particulars, and that I am alone in holding them to their full extent, it may seem strange that anything should be urged in extenuation; but

1. All the world has had these "baseless fabrics." Those truths which are now at the foundation of Natural Science, were once "hatched in the heated brains of philosophers." Sir Isaac Newton's great labors were to prove a favorite theory—a fortunate guess

2. No two men have just the same notions—hence, though I am alone with my crotchets, I am not singular.

3. I am fully persuaded that I could do but little without them, though they be like the Scotchman's head, which he lost in the times of the Rebellion—"poor

enough to be sure, but then poor fellow, all the head he had."

If then these theories are necessary, continually changing though they be—if, in the endless variety of time and change, which happen to all men, we are often called upon to act in unprecedented circumstances, I need scarcely conclude that he whose theories are nearest the truth will be most successful, nor urge that we should form them with most scrupulous care.

But what is theory essentially? Says G. E. H., "The baseless fabric of a vision." True, and yet with the growing dawn wreathing itself into successive shapes, until with the perfect light it has transformed itself into the adamant temple of truth. An eminent man of the present time has compared them to 14 glass windows. Some things look distorted through most of them, and yet they are certainly a great convenience.

But if theories were of no greater use, they are of great advantage for the classification of facts—a string on which the pearls of experience may be strung, each in its proper place, or an index to a man's mental possessions.

Holding these sentiments, the value which I venture to ascribe to chemistry as the foundation of true agricultural science, may be readily seen. There are undoubtedly errors in its premises, (and what science in its infancy had none?) many of our deductions are probably imperfectly drawn. There are pompous pretenders who wear its livery and claim for themselves and their doctrines infallibility. And yet I believe that agricultural truth must yet find, as mineral truth has found, and as medical truth is finding, a home in the formulas of chemistry.

Organic chemistry claims to be founded on the Baconian theory, which G. E. H. so justly eulogises, and is certainly in eminent contra-distinction to the "instructive principles of our farmers," in very many cases. It claims that the term "vital principle," like its great ante-type phlogiston, enshrouds a multitude of facts that should be arranged and classified, like any other natural truths, and that the Baconian laws must be inexorably carried even into the economy of living things.

I am aware that it is not the province of the Country Gentleman to deal in hypotheses—that its mission is to promulgate established truths, and yet feel assured from its character, and the history of its predecessor, that as fast as new truth becomes worthy of incorporation with the old, it will not fail to furnish it to its readers.

So much for theory, and now a practical word about root crops. I sowed my turneps and carrots last year two feet apart in drills in the field—hoed them twice, and then plowed them with a light wood work, made like an old fashioned bull plow, with a block of wood to run in the furrow. The wood work was made to run just to the *pitch* of the large cast plow. A wrought iron point, long and sharp, and cutting ten inches width of furrow, did the work of the hoe subsequently

to the two hoeings, letting the pulverized dirt fall *behind* without covering the off side row. This plow runs closer to the row than the cultivator—runs steadier, and may be worked to good advantage in twenty inch spaces.

I worked my corn with the same plow, as it leaves the ground nearly even in surface.

I can't help adding that "theory" tells me that just as good a plow might be made with the old fashioned wood work with one handle, carefully made to the pitch of a common plow, and a new cast point fitted to the block and bolted on through the two bolt holes in the point. W. Fergusonsville, N. Y., Jan. 9, 1854.

#### De Burgh's Superphosphate of Lime.

MESSESS. EDITORS—We notice in the Country Gentleman the results of Mr. BUTTERFIELD'S experiments with superphosphate of lime sold by us. We enclose a letter from the head farmer of F. MORRIS, Esq., of Throg's Neck, showing very different results. We have heard some complaints respecting some parcels of De Burgh's superphosphate sent out last year, though not so many as we have heard about the same article made by others. We have examined into the cause of the failure, and have found that it arose in every instance from the too great haste in which the article was manufactured, owing to a desire to supply the great demand, and the want of the necessary accommodations. Mr. De B. assures us that these defects are now remedied. Res. yours, LONGETT & GRIFFING. New-York, Jan. 28, 1854.

C. B. DE BURGH, Esq.—Having, during the last season, put your superphosphate of lime to full test, both in horticulture and agriculture, I beg to assure you it is with feelings of the greatest pleasure I now write of the results. I have tried your article in all the departments of common vegetables, and have met with the most satisfactory results, both as to the largeness of growth and general quality; I have also tested it in the departments of general agriculture, and have met with equal success. In one field of corn, I made experiments with six different varieties of manures, and found throughout the season that where I applied your superphosphate of lime the corn was much stronger in growth and superior in color, and when husked, the yield to be far the largest.

We had upwards of six acres of beets and carrots. The land had been plowed and the manure for the beets applied in drills, seven drills side by side. I applied seven different descriptions of manure, viz., barnyard manure, night-soil, wood ashes, decayed vegetable matter, bone dust, and Peruvian guano. I found the yield at least ten per cent. in favor of your superphosphate of lime. I tried guano and your article only side by side on the carrots. I put it on broadcast, and met with the same results as with the beets—much in favor of the superphosphate.

I consider that your superphosphate of lime is the cheapest and the most beneficial manure that can be applied to the land. Next spring I intend to apply to you for a larger supply of your valuable preparation.

JAMES McMILLAN.

#### Notes on Oregon.

A subscriber at St. Helens, Oregon Territory, writes us as follows:

"I emigrated to Oregon in 1847. I find the climate quite different from that of the western states. The frost is never severe enough in the spring to kill apples or peaches, and in the autumn never kills potato vines till about the middle of November. Potatoes planted by the middle of July will get ripe before cold weather sets in. We have the coldest weather about the middle of December—the ice sometimes three inches thick. The weather becomes mild after the first of January, and vegetation commences the last of Jan. or in February, and by the first of April the grass is usually a foot high. I have harvested more and heavier wheat to the acre here than in the western states. It is ready to harvest by 8th of July, when the second crop commences growing up at the roots without plowing or sowing, and the next season produces full half a crop. Oats sown in October, are ripe in June, when a second crop starts up, which is ready to harvest about the first of November. We can raise two crops spring wheat, barley, peas, potatoes, &c., yearly. We come near having seed-time and harvest all the year round—in fact wheat has been sown in every month of the year, and produced good crops. The English grasses do well here, generally growing five feet high, and afford good pasture all the winter except about two weeks in December, when we frequently have snow to the depth of a foot or two. The wild grass is very fine and makes first-rate hay."

#### Inquiry.

MESSESS. EDITORS—Will you or some of your numerous readers, tell me a cure for a difficulty for which I do not know a proper name, which is on the side of the neck of a young stag which has never been yoked. It is about midway between the butt of the ear and large joint in the shoulder, and looks about as large as a goose egg, and has a pulsation which may be seen a rod or more. On applying the hand, the feeling is as of a lengthened bag filled with liquid, and the pulsation has a gurgling motion. Information respecting the above will oblige A STEUBEN SUBSCRIBER.

#### Mixing Soils.

Observing how both vegetables and trees thrived in red clay, which had been turned up by deep plowing, I tried the experiment last spring of laying a coating of red clay over rich garden soil, which appeared exhausted, by long culture, of some of the ingredients necessary to nourish vegetables, although liberally supplied from time to time with manure. As far as I can yet discover, it seems to have had the desired effect in renovating the soil. The vegetables sowed on the clay did better than for several years preceding, but I will be able to judge more satisfactorily the ensuing year. I thought that by putting the red clay around the raspberry, it would not be necessary to change its location. Mine have been for ten or fifteen years in the same place and have not thriven for some years, although well manured; I cannot yet judge of the application of the red clay in this respect. J. H. Carlisle, Pa.



### Annual Meeting of the N. Y. State Ag. Society.

The Society met in the Assembly Chamber at 12 o'clock, M., Wednesday, Feb. 8, and was called to order by the President, LEWIS G. MORRIS, Esq., of Fordham, who made a few introductory remarks to the effect that gentlemen of the Society should bear in mind the pre-eminent position which the Agricultural Society of the State of New-York held among similar organizations in this country and in foreign countries, and take care that their deliberations be characterized by such calmness and judgment as comport with the importance and dignity of the interests which the Society represent.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, B. P. JOHNSON, Secretary, read a lengthy report, reviewing the action and results of the Society for the past year. The report speaks of the present prosperous condition of agriculture in the State; of the rise in the price of lands, which have advanced fifty per cent. in ten years; of the high price of all farm products; of the extent to which the practice of draining is carried; and of the manifest general improvement in farm management and economy, in the promotion of which the Society has been instrumental. It has ever been the purpose of the Society to foster improvement in every safe and judicious method, and among its objects has been the encouragement of agricultural education. This subject was receiving much attention at the hands of one of the members of the Executive Board, the Hon. JOHN DELAFIELD, but his plans have failed of their maturity through his sudden decease. The report alludes to his death in very feeling terms, and embodies the resolutions adopted by the Executive Board. The document goes on to recommend increased efforts to add to the funds and usefulness of the Society, and advises the making of experiments with different crops and manures as rapidly as men can be found to carry them on with sufficient accuracy to lead to any beneficial results.

The following is the Treasurer's report:

B. B. Kirtland, in account with Society,	Dr.
To Life Members, annual meeting, .....	\$60 00
members, do do .....	175 00
Tickets sold winter fair, .....	164 39
Interest on monies loaned, .....	\$402 39
From State Treasury, .....	420 00
Bond and Mortgage, .....	700 00
Temporary loans, .....	2,052 33
Bond and mortgage, .....	1,083 00
Life members at Saratoga, .....	2,026 05
Members, .....	\$110
Tickets of admission, .....	3,145
	2,740
Total, .....	5,995 00
By Premiums paid annual meeting, .....	\$12,684 77
Premiums due at Utica and Rochester	Cr.
Fairs, .....	613 16
Prem's paid Saratoga Fair, .....	3,465 38
Expenses winter meeting, .....	\$4,764 54
Expenses at Saratoga, .....	250 50
Incidental and miscellaneous expenses, .....	2,028 68
Printing and advertising, .....	173 92
Expenses museum, .....	338 07
Postages, .....	225 73
Library, .....	149 02
Salaries and traveling, .....	75 79
Survey of Essex county, .....	2,352 59
	421 00

Assignment bond and mortgage, .....	2 25
On account of loan paid, .....	1,100 00
Balance to new account, .....	802 68

Total, .....

The present funds of the Society are—

Cash on hand, .....	\$802 68
Cash invested, .....	2,000 00
Medals, plate, books, &c., .....	371 35

Total, .....

After the acceptance and adoption of the reports, a committee of three from each Judicial District were appointed and charged with the nomination of officers for the coming year, and the recommendation of a place for holding the next Annual Fair. The Society adjourned till 4 o'clock to give the committee time to report.

At the afternoon session, the following Board of Officers were reported by the committee, who were elected without an opposing vote:

President—WILLIAM KELLY, Rhinebeck, Dutchess co.

Vice-Presidents—J. C. Jackson, New-York; A. B. Conger, Clarkstown, Rockland co.; George Vail, Troy, Rensselaer co.; Le Roy Mowry, Greenwich, Washington co.; J. C. Woodruff, Syracuse; J. Barber, Homer, Cortland co.; D. H. Abeil, Geneseo, Livingston co.; S. M. Burroughs, Medina, Orleans co.

Corresponding Secretary—B. P. Johnson, Albany.

Recording Secretary—E. Corning, Jr., Albany.

Treasurer—B. B. Kirtland, Rensselaer.

Executive Committee—Edgar C. Dibble, Batavia, Genesee; Elon Comstock, Rome, Oneida; Charles Morrell, Ludlowville, Tompkins; T. B. Arden, Philipstown, Putnam; Ambrose Stevens, New-York.

The committee also reported in favor of NEW-YORK CITY as the place for holding the next Fair.

Mr. ELON COMSTOCK, from the committee appointed last year to examine and report upon the expediency of selecting permanent locations for the annual fairs, made a lengthy report, assuming to discuss the matter on either side. As opposed to a permanent location, three arguments were instanced. 1. The success which has hitherto attended the fairs of the Society. 2. The better accommodation of places remote from the great lines of travel. 3. The creating of a local interest by making the fairs itinerant. In favor of a permanent location the report makes six points. 1. Greater economy in management. 2. Greater convenience to exhibitors. 3. Increased facilities afforded for prolonging the exhibition. 4. Increased comfort to all interested, both man and beast. 5. Better order in the fairs. 6. Increased attendance and receipts. These points were maintained in an argument of considerable length, but the report failed of the desired effect in that, instead of generalizing upon the subject, it did not show the advantages of locating at some three places, naming the places at which the fairs should be held alternately. As it was, Mr. BURROUGHS, of Orleans, in an impassioned speech, made the friends of permanent location speechless, and after a little further discussion, the report was laid on the table, and ordered printed.

Mr. STEVENS, of New-York, gave notice of a proposition to amend the Constitution of the Society, with a view to holding the annual fairs permanently in one or more places for a term of years.

That portion of the committee's report relating to

location was now called up, and it was moved to amend it by inserting Syracuse in place of New-York, after which another amendment was moved that Elmira be substituted for Syracuse, but after a spirited discussion the proposition to substitute Syracuse for New-York, was lost by a vote of 52 to 50.

Wednesday evening, Prof. E. S. CARR, of the University of Albany, delivered an address before the Society, in which he argued that agriculture has not advanced as rapidly as it otherwise might, because science has not been applied to it. The chemical constituents of the soil are known, but the way in which they combine to produce the plant, the way in which the principles of science should be applied, is not thoroughly understood. We have no schools of agriculture,—the importance of its study is not recognized. The lecturer went on to speak of some of the more common facts with regard to the soil and the plant, and to explain how science came in to supply a want which every farmer must have felt. Prof. CARR spoke, as he always does, to the point and eloquently, and was listened to with marked attention.

On Thursday evening, the President delivered the closing address, in which he spoke of the importance of procuring pure seeds for all farm crops of introducing new grasses, and of irrigation as practiced in England, Lombardy and Switzerland, the practical working and benefit of which he had observed in a recent visit to these countries. He thought there was not a county in the State, the products of which could not be increased one-fifth by proper attention to irrigation. At the close of the address which was a sound and practical one, Mr. Morris introduced Mr. Kelly, the President elect, to the Society, who made an earnest appeal for the co-operation of the members in advancing the agricultural interests of the State.

Resolutions were passed, referring, in an appropriate manner, to the worth and services of the late JOHN DELAFIELD who was so active in promoting the interests of agriculture in the land. These called out a beautiful eulogium from Hon. JOHN A. KING, Queens Co., who had been associated with him, and from his connection with the proposed Agricultural College that subject was warmly discussed. Senator DICKINSON, of Chemung Co., took part in this discussion and argued that the farmer wanted skill which he could best acquire on the farm. He did not think that an Agricultural College was desirable. Major PATRICK, of Jefferson Co., replied to him, and contended that the gentleman was a proof that such an institution was needed, for it was impossible to obtain this knowledge by real experience during an ordinary life-time; hence it was necessary to unite science with skill. He continued in an eloquent manner to advocate the necessity of such a school.

Notice was given by H. C. White, of Buffalo, that at the next annual meeting, he would propose an amendment to the Constitution, to the effect that the several Presidents of County Agricultural Societies, or a delegate in their stead, be a State Board of Agriculture, and be empowered to elect a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of eight to carry on the business of the Society.

The Society adjourned in apparent good feeling, and with a determination to maintain its standing, replenish its treasury and increase its usefulness.

### Executive Committee Meeting.

The Executive Committee met Friday, Feb. 10, and resolved to locate the next Fair in New-York, in case the requirements of the Society were complied with before the next meeting of the Executive Board. The President, John A. King, L. G. Morris, J. C. Jackson and B. P. Johnson were appointed a Committee to examine any locations that may be offered and report at the next meeting.

The Premium List was taken up and several alterations and additions were made, among which was a change in the premiums offered on Horses, so as to better divide the several classes, which was referred to a special committee; and so amending the Stock Premiums as to have a special class for imported animals and their immediate progeny; in which animals shall receive only first prizes in each sub-division; while the Premiums will remain as before on the stock bred in this country in each of the classes of Short Horns, Devons, Herefords and Ayrshires.

The Executive Committee ex-officio appointed a Committee, consisting of C. P. Williams, Albany, Charles Downing, Newburgh, J. J. Thomas, Macedon, Thos. W. Ludlow, Jr., Yonkers, Geo. Ellwanger, Rochester, John B. Eaton, Buffalo, to investigate the remedies for the ravages of the curculio, and report to the Society.

They also appointed the following gentlemen delegates to the Annual Meeting of the United States Agricultural Society—Hon. John A. King; Henry Wager; Luther Tucker; Francis Rotch; E. Corning, Jr.; J. Beekman Finlay; J. J. Viele; Lorrillard Spencer; P. Barry; H. W. Rogers; L. G. Morris; S. M. Burroughs; B. P. Johnson.

### Winter Exhibition.

The show of fat cattle was not very large, but comprised some very superior animals. G. V. Sackett, of Seneca Falls, exhibited thirty head of well fattened cattle. W. P. & C. S. Wainwright, of Rhinebeck, showed a five year old Devon Steer, very fine; D. A. Bulkley, of Williamstown, Mass., a fat Steer, five years old; Robert Rome, of Geneseo, eleven head of cattle, among which three Spayed Heifers were worthy of special notice; George Shaffer, of Wheatland, Monroe co., three Spayed Heifers of the Devon breed, very large and fat; James Upton, of Greece, Monroe co., a pair of six year old cattle, a cross between the Durham and Devon, of remarkable size.

The show of swine was small. Col. J. M. Sherwood, of Auburn, exhibited a sow and two pigs of the Suffolk breed, which were very much admired. The Suffolks are model hogs, that is they contain the greatest possible amount of pork in the smallest possible compass, and withal they have a clean and good-looking appearance, which contrasts favorably with vulgar porkers.

Julian Winne, of Bethlehem, showed two dressed pigs nine months and thirteen days old, the live weight of the one was 386 lbs., and the dressed weight 336 lbs.; of the other, live weight, 323 lbs., and the dressed



weight 293 lbs. Mr. Winne had six of these pigs, and has kept an accurate account of the expense of feeding them. The profit on the six, reckoning pork at eight cents a pound, is \$45. It will be noticed that the difference between the live and dead weight is very small.

N. Brownell, of Pittstown, Rensselaer co., showed six fat Merino wethers and two carcasses of the same lot dressed. The eight brought \$80 for mutton. The value of the Merinoes for fattening has been set down at a low figure, but the experiment of Mr. Brownell goes to show that they may be made to yield a more than average quantity of mutton, and of superior quality to that of our ordinary sheep.

The show of poultry was not large, but contained some good fowls. No premiums were offered, but the committee commend the specimens offered by all the exhibitors. There was a moderate display of dressed poultry.

The show of Grain, Seeds, Butter and Cheese was fair. The specimens were all excellent, and in many instances very superior. The names of the principal exhibitors will be found in the list of premiums awarded.

There were several competitors for the premium offered for experiments with the potato, and most of the observations and trials extend over a considerable period of time.

The display of Fruit at the Geological Rooms was not as large as last year. The Pears from Ellwanger & Barry, the Grapes from John S. Goold, and the Apples from Western New-York, were all in fine condition.

Premiums were awarded as follows:—

#### EXPERIMENTS, &c.

*Experiments with Potato*—1. H. H. Eastman, Marshall, \$125—2. George W. Burgess, Chatham, \$75—3. J. H. Morse, Cazenovia, \$50—4. W. Culver, Arcadia, Wayne co., special premium, \$25.

*Plans of Barns*—L. F. Allen, Black Rock, first premium, \$25. *Farms*—S. L. Wattle, Sidney Center, Delaware co., (no competition,) third premium, \$20.

#### GRAIN AND SEEDS.

*Winter Wheat*—1. Levi Shaw, Rensselaerville, \$9—2. O. Howland, Owasco, \$5—3. O. Howland, Owasco, \$3—T. C. Peters, Darien, for white blue stem, S. S. Medal and Trans.

*Spring Wheat*—1. David Conradt, Brunswick, \$8—2. O. Howland, Owasco, \$5—3. David Hess, Fenner, \$3.

*Oats*—1. David Hess, Fenner, \$5—2. Peter Crispell, Jr., Hurley, \$3—3. James W. Jolly, Coeymans, \$2.

*Corn—Yellow*—Volney Burgess, O. Howland, Owasco, E. S. Hayward, Brighton, each \$5.

*Corn—White*—Levi Shaw, Albany, O. Howland, Cayuga, D. Conradt, Brunswick, each \$5.

*Rye*—1. David Conradt, Brunswick, \$5—2. Levi Shaw, Rensselaerville, \$3—3. E. W. Bushnell, Hillsdale, \$2.

*Barley—2-rowed*—1. J. Rapalje & Co., Rochester, \$5—2. Wm. Davison, Hartwick, \$3—3. O. Howland, Owasco, \$2.

*Barley—4-rowed*—1. O. Howland, Owasco, 48 lbs., (no competition,) \$5.

*Peas*—O. Howland, Owasco, \$5.

J. Rapalje & Co., of Rochester, exhibited eight varieties of peas, each sample of which your committee consider to be very superior, and well entitled to a discretionary premium. *Silver Medal.*

*Beans*—1. O. Howland, Owasco, very superior, \$5—2. David Hess, Fenner, prime article, \$3.

*Discretionary Premiums*—D. A. Bulkley, Williamstown, Mass., for large varieties of Corn, Wheat, Rye, &c., \$5.

C. F. Crossman, varieties of Beans, Peas, &c., small Silver Medal and Transactions.

*Buckwheat*—1. O. Howland, Owasco, 53 lbs.

There was no competition in this article, but the sample exhibited is considered by the committee to be equal to any thing of the kind that has ever come under their observation.

*Clover Seed—large*—O. Howland, Owasco, 62½ lbs. of superior quality, (no competition,) \$5.

*Clover Seed—small*—Douw Van Vechten, Mohawk, 62 lbs. of superior quality, (no competition,) \$5.

*Timothy Seed*—1. O. Howland, Owasco. 2. Douw Van Vechten, Mohawk.

L. L. French, Warren, Herkimer co., special premium on Peas, Beans, and Buckwheat Flour, \$5, and vol. of Trans.

#### FIELD CROPS.

*Corn*—1. George K. Eells, Clinton, Oneida co., 2½ acres, 218½ bushels, \$20—2. Ira Apthorp, Riga, Monroe co., 2 acres, 185 bushels, \$15—3. E. S. Hayward, Brighton, Monroe co., 2 55-100 acres, 186½ bushels, \$8.

*Barley*—1. Riley W. Hess, Fenner, Madison co., 16 acres, 3 roods, 35 rods, 779 22-48 bushels, (no competition,) \$15.

*Buckwheat*—1. Charles W. Eells, Westmoreland, Oneida co., 1 acre, 6 rods, 72 bushels, 26 lbs., (no competition,) \$8.

*Peas*—1. J. W. Jolly, Coeymans, 1 86-100 acres, 88 bushels, \$8—2. N. Hitchcock, Jr., Homer, 1 acre, 3 roods, 5 rods, 74½ bushels, \$3.

*Carrots*—1. E. S. Hayward, Brighton, Monroe co., ¼ acre, 378 bushels, \$8.

*Beans*—1. David Conradt, Brunswick, 1 acre, 12 roods, 30½ bushels, \$8.

*Timothy Seed*—1. Douw Van Vechten, Mohawk, 1 acre, 5 bushels, 27 quarts, \$5.

*Winter Wheat*—1. J. W. Waterbury, Jefferson co., 43 bushels per acre, \$20.

*Spring Wheat*—1. Chas. W. Eells, Westmoreland, 38 bushels, 26 lbs. per acre, \$15—2. Hart Massey, Watertown, Jefferson co., 31½ bushels, \$10.

*Rye*—1. E. W. Bushnell, Hillsdale, Columbia co., 3 acres, 3 roods and 20 rods, 163 2-56 bushels, \$15—2. Hiram Converse, Pamela, Jefferson co., 2 12-100 acres, 51 bush., \$10.

*Oats*—1. J. W. Jolly, Coeymans, 76½ bushels per acre, (special premium,) \$15.

#### FAT CATTLE.

*Oxen*—1. James Upton, Greece, Monroe co., \$30—2. W. P. & C. S. Wainright, Rhinebeck, \$25—3. James Upton, Greece, Monroe co., \$20.

*Steers*—1. Robert Rome, Geneseo, \$25—2. G. V. Sackett, Seneca Falls, \$20—3. G. V. Sackett, Seneca Falls, \$15.

*Cows*—1. Robert Rome, Geneseo, \$20—2. Robert Rome, Geneseo, \$15—3. Henry Hazen, Martinsburgh, \$10.

*Heifers*—1. Robert Rome, Geneseo, \$15—2. Robert Rome, Geneseo, \$10—3. Robert Rome, Geneseo, \$5.

*Spayed Heifers*—1. Robert Rome, Geneseo, \$15—2. Robert Rome, Geneseo, \$10—3. Robert Rome, Geneseo, \$5.

*Sheep—Long wooded*—1. Robert Rome, Geneseo, \$10—2. John S. Pratt, Cambridge, Washington co., \$8.

*Sheep—Cross Breed*—1. Nathan'l Brownell, Pittstown, \$10—2. Nathaniel Brownell, Pittstown, \$5.

*Discretionary*—Geo. Schaffer, Monroe co., exhibited three very superior spayed Heifers. They were not presented for competition, but owing to their acknowledged excellence, the committee would recommend an award of \$15.

D. A. Bulkley, Williamstown, Mass., a Fat Ox, \$10.

*Butter*—1. Jonathan Ballard, 2d, Homer, \$15—2. George B. Powell, Milton, Saratoga co., \$10—3. Henrietta Daniels, Saratoga, \$5—4. N. Hitchcock, Jr., Homer, Trans.

*Cheese*—1. John Winslow, Watertown, \$15—2. Moses Eames, Rutland, Jefferson co., \$10—3. George Clarke, Hartwick, Otsego co., \$5. *Commended*—George Clarke, old Cheese, vol. Trans.

*Discretionary Premiums on Butter*—L. L. French, Warren, Herkimer co., S. S. Medal and \$5. This butter arrived after the judges had concluded their report. A special committee examined it.

#### FRUIT.

*Apples*—1. Largest and best collection, to R. H. Brown, Greece, Monroe co., for 28 varieties, Silver Medal.—2. A. B. Rose, Wyoming co., for 25 varieties, Downing's Fruit Book.—3. E. & E. S. Hayward, Monroe co., for 20 varieties; to Frank Atwater, Ithaca, for 16 varieties; to Henry Freeman, Richfield, for 14 varieties; to C. F. Crossman, Rochester, for 12 varieties, copies of Barry's Fruit Garden.—4. To Isaac Merritt, Monroe co., for 11 varieties; to Hart Massey, Watertown, for 11 varieties; to B. B. Kirtland, Greenbush, for 5 varieties, copies of Thomas' Fruit Culturist.—5. To J. H. Walts, Rochester; Isaac Foster, Hillsdale; William Bacon, Richmond, Mass.; J. Winslow and Wm. Robson, Westmoreland, Oneida co., for fine exhibitions, copies of the Society's Transactions.—A. Frost & Co., Rochester, for 21 varieties, Downing's Fruits.

*Pears*—Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, exhibited a collection of twenty-seven varieties, all of fine size and beautiful appearance, to whom is awarded a Silver Medal and Diploma.

*Grapes*—John S. Goold, of Albany, exhibited Golden Chasselas, Catawba and Isabella Grapes in fine edible condition, grown in open air and preserved in cotton, to which is awarded Barry's Fruit Garden. T. T. Beebe, Albany, for Isabella, Barry's Fruit Book.

### Budding and Autumn Grafting.

I wish to make a few inquiries in regard to the propagation of the Peach and Apple. I do not find any thing in relation to fall grafting the apple. In budding the peach, you recommend leaving the wood in the bud. I have lately commenced a nursery; not more than one-half my apple trees took. A person from the state of New-Jersey said fall grafting was best for the apple, and grafted about 4,000. Please say what your experience is in this matter, as I may have been imposed upon.

In regard to the peach, I had about 6,000 budded in the early part of September, all the wood taken out; upon examination, I think I am safe in saying there are not five to the hundred missing. If, however, the wood can be left in with as good success, the operation can be performed much more speedily. I should like to know your experience in this. JAMES DELAPLAINE. *Centreville, Delaware, Jan., 1854.*

We have never tried out-door or stock grafting in autumn, but have been informed by those who have, that the long period elapsing after the operation and before the commencement of growth, in connexion with the frequent freezing and thawing which the place of union has to undergo, operate unfavorably, and that it has not been attended with much success. It is common to commence root-grafting in cellars in the depth of winter, and some months before setting the roots out; and being packed in a uniformly cool place, they suffer little or no detriment by the delay. If any of our readers have had experience giving different results, they would confer a favor by communicating the information.

With regard to the removal of the wood from the bud,—when performed early in the season, as for example in budding the cherry, we find it quite necessary to leave in a considerable portion of wood, to prevent the bud drying out. Later in the season, this is not so essential; if the stocks are thrifty and peel freely, there need not be a single failure in a thousand, even if the wood is left in. Some skillful nurserymen who bud Angers quince with the pear late in summer, are in the practice of removing the wood, which may perhaps induce the bud to lie more closely to the wood; others never remove the wood, but shave the bud off carefully and evenly, and scarcely ever meet with a failure. We never remove the wood from the peach, and on good stocks do not fail with one in a hundred.

### Strawberry Destroyed by Grubs.

One question I will take the liberty to ask you respecting strawberry culture. Last April I prepared a patch of ground according to directions given in the Cultivator, and set my plants; they grew finely until the last of June, when they began to show signs of decay. I supposed it might be the drouth, which, by the way, was very severe in this section of country the past summer. I procured a quantity of spent tan-bark and mulched them two inches deep, but they did not improve; and to satisfy myself of the cause, I dug into the hills and found one or more large white worms with a brown head, commonly known among the farmers as the dung worm. They had eaten the roots of the plants. WILLIS P. SARGENT. *West Amesbury, Mass., Jan., 1854.*

The want of a description prevents us from identifying the grub alluded to. We have not met with any

thing of this sort in connexion with strawberry culture. If the grubs are few, doubtless they might be easily dug out and destroyed when their presence is first detected. We have sometimes found it an easy way, when other crops have been attacked by grubs, to offer boys a certain sum per dozen for all they could find.

### Time for Grafting the Apple.

MR. TUCKER—Please inform me through the Cultivator the proper time for grafting the apple. W. S. *Canada West.*

The best time is the spring when the buds are beginning to swell, the scions for grafting having been cut a few weeks previously, and kept in a moist cool place, or in a box of damp moss in a cool cellar, so as to be neither shrivelled or water-soaked. Grafts may be cut and inserted the same day, if the buds have not swollen much. Grafts are sometimes set much later, but starting so late, they do not make so good a growth during the summer.

### Place for Grape Borders, &c.

Intending to erect a grapery in the spring, I wish to propose a few questions, namely:—

1. Should the root of the grapevine be placed outside of the grapery and the vine allowed to pass through an aperture in the side of the building, and thus be exposed to the action of the frost upon one side and artificial heat upon the other? (a)

2. Should the roots, in like manner with the vine, be permitted to seek a place within and without of doors? If not, which should be preferred; i. e., ought the roots be wholly confined within the limits of the grapery or entirely excluded? (b)

3. Would it be necessary to take the vines down and cover them during the winter, either in a cold or hot house? (c)

4. Can you tell me where the black or Florida Fig can be obtained? Also I would like a little history of the "twice bearing kinds." If there is a place in the world where I can obtain some Fig trees, which will hold true to the name under which they are sent, I shall feel thankful, for you know the nurserymen are very naughty about such things.

The grapes are all to be foreign varieties. (d)

An answer given in the Country Gentleman, by some one who has had practical experience, will be very thankfully received and long remembered by A SUBSCRIBER. *Utica, N. Y.*

(a, b) Borders for grapevines are sometimes wholly without, and sometimes partly without and partly within. A principal advantage of placing them without is, the rains falling upon them obviate the necessity of supplying them wholly with artificial watering, which is quite a formidable task in a large grapery, with ten thousand broad leaves constantly breathing off moisture. When the vines are planted outside, the stems enter the house at the surface of the ground and close to the wall, and are scarcely exposed to the frost. The roots being mostly 2 or three feet below the surface in the deep artificial border, are not injured by cold. Even a very few inches of earth will prevent injury to exotic grapes, whether vines or roots.

(c) The vines are taken down late in autumn, pruned, laid on the ground, and covered with leaves or evergreen boughs, for winter. This rule applies to all



houses where artificial heat is not kept up during winter.

(d) We presume most of the large nurserymen of the eastern cities have the different varieties of the Fig, but do not know with certainty where the Black fig can be had correctly. J. FISK ALLEN, of Salem, Mass., has given much attention to the culture of the Fig, and could undoubtedly give all the needed information.

#### Insect on Fruit-Trees.

The last autumn, in taking a review of my fruit trees, I discovered something new to me on the peach and Morello limbs of the last summer growth, of which I send you three pieces of limbs of the peach, that you may see them and make an examination of them; they may be something new.

I wish you to inform me of some work on the grape and its culture in full. E. S. D. Warren Co., Pa.

On examining the twigs, we find them punctured with rows of holes, extending lengthwise with the shoot from an inch to an inch and a half in length in each row, each puncture containing an egg deposited in the pith; some twenty or thirty eggs lying in each row. We have often met with them before, in peach, cherry, and plum trees, more frequently in the younger trees of the cherry. Some years since, they were so numerous on cherry trees that it was with difficulty that uninjured scions could be obtained for grafting. No serious evil, so far as we know, ever resulted from the insect punctures, except the mechanical injury to the young shoots, the growth of which, when they are numerous, is retarded. Their discovery for the first time, by some fruit growers, has led them to imagine that they had at last discovered the great secret of the black knot or excrescence; but although we have watched them for many years, we never found this result from them in a single instance. We have never discovered the insect in the act of depositing the eggs, but from their manner of cutting or perforating the limb, infer that it is something of the *Cicada* family.

An insect which makes similar punctures in branches of the *Filbert*, but on a much larger scale, has nearly destroyed all our best bushes—the injury being mechanical.

The best Treatise on the Grape, is that of J. FISK ALLEN, of Salem, Mass., prepared from extensive practical knowledge. A smaller work, of much practical merit, on the management of cold *graperies*, has been lately published by WM. CHORLTON, of Staten Island, N. Y.

#### Easy way to have Parsley all Winter.

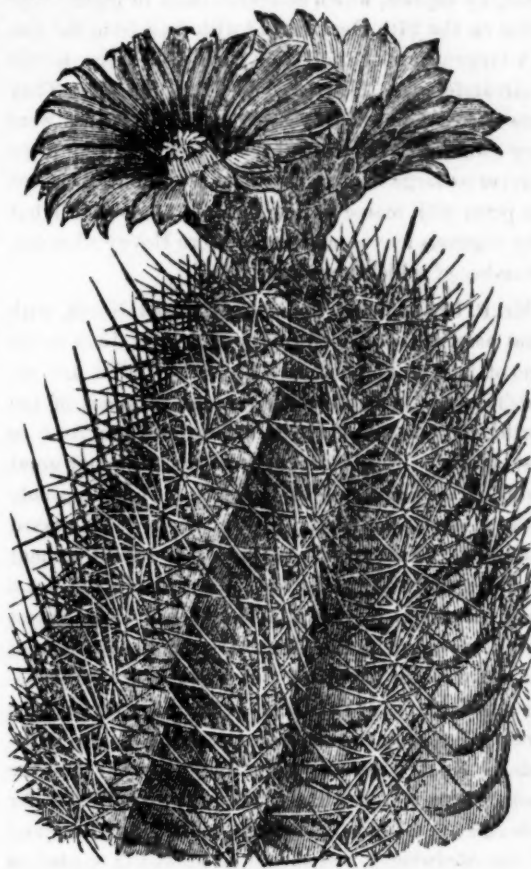
The following is an easy method of growing this useful little herb, so as to have it fresh and green all winter, for garnishing or flavoring, which every family may adopt without trouble or expense. I do not know if the plan is generally known; if it is not, I consider it worth knowing.

Take a good strong half-barrel or whole barrel sawn in two; then with a half or three-quarters inch auger, bore holes about four or six inches apart, all over the side. Then in the fall, say November, dig up out of

the ground, strong parsley roots, trim and separate them begin at the bottom of the barrel, and insert the crown of one plant into each hole, and fill up with any light soil, as you proceed, till you reach the top, and a few roots may be planted on the top. Place the barrel under the stage in the green-house, or in a warm cellar or kitchen, or anywhere where it can get a little light and warmth. It will not take up much room anywhere, and is not dirty. It will not only supply you with abundance of parsley, but if you have the fine curled variety, its greenness and beauty are not its least attractions. C. S. *Cincinnati*.

#### New Mexican Cactus.

Some of the most interesting and curious greenhouse flowering plants belong to the cactus tribe, and their singular appearance and brilliant flowers have long since rendered them favorites. We furnish in the



annexed engraving the representation of a new plant introduced to cultivation from the neighborhood of San Louis Potosi in Mexico, in the year 1847. It is six inches or more in height, and thickly covered with rows of spines, each spine about an inch long. The flowers are large, rose-colored, with dark red at the base. It flowers during the summer.

EXTIRPATING WILD ONIONS—INQUIRY.—Pray will you be kind enough to inform the readers of your valuable periodical of the most practical way of eradicating wild onions from the soil. Yours very respectfully, I. S. C. *New Brunswick, N. J.*

Will some of our readers answer the above?

### Perpetual Bearing Strawberries.

In compliance with your request in the last number of the Country Gentleman, I am happy to give you briefly Mr. PEABODY'S method of cultivating Hovey's Seedling and Early Scarlet strawberries at his residence in Columbus, Georgia, so as to ensure them in continual bearing from March till January following.

Mr. C. A. Peabody is the Horticultural Editor of the "Soil of the South," at Columbus Ga., and besides his published account, I have by a personal interview, learned every minute particular of his method. In addition, in our correspondence during the past season, Mr. P. has in different months sent me specimens of his ripe fruit, pressed upon his letters, in proof of their being still in bearing, and on the 20th Dec., he took up earth, fruit and plants, some 20 plants in full bearing, and sent them in that condition to Messrs. Thorburn, & Co., by express, which delivered them in perfect condition on the 24th Dec., loaded with fruit from the size of a large pea to the full ripe Hovey, of three inches in circumference. There could be no mistake. They were the genuine Hovey Seedling. The leaves were very small, generally about the size of a shilling piece—never as large as a two shilling piece, and I noticed one plant with scarce half a dozen of those small but very vigorous leaves, and ten or more Hovey's berries, a number of which were fully ripe.

Mr. P. has no doubt they can be raised North, with great ease, so as to ripen continually from June to the time of frost in September. He says: "We are astonished that in the moister, colder latitudes of the North, they do not have strawberries from frost to frost again." In his directions he says, the four great requisites are "proper location, vegetable manure, shade to the ground, and *Water, Water, Water!*" In regard to location, he says: "No plant or tree should be near the bed; the strawberry bed loves a shade, but not a shade that sucks its very life blood out." The lowest part of the garden, the bank of some little stream of water, are proper localities, and when it is possible select new land. As to soil, our beds are on as poor pine land as Gopher or Salamander ever built into pyramids." Next, "use only vegetable manures; and the whole secret of strawberry culture is to cultivate for fruit and not for vine or blossom. The ground designed for the strawberry bed should be plowed or spaded as deep as tools can well make it. If the soil is light and thin, a thick coat of swamp or muck partially decomposed leaves, with leached or unleached ashes will fine to turn under. Place the plants, when the ground is thoroughly pulverized and levelled, two feet apart. If fruit be the object, cover the whole surface of the ground with partially decomposed leaves or straw, and as the first runners begin to show themselves, take them off. When the vine has once commenced fruiting, it will show little disposition to run if not over stimulated. The plants must have water to set the fruit and swell it when set. We care not how much water they have when in bloom. If the season proves dry we give water to set the fruit by artificial rain; and unless it

rain twice a week, we give artificial rain to swell the fruit, and then we give artificial rain to set the next fruit stems, and all this notwithstanding the thick mulching or moist location. Fear not to give too much water, morning and evening."

Mr. P. also says we tried "five square yards by watering with highly fertilized liquid manure morning and evening, superadding copious waterings of pure water. The crop of vines was enormous—it was impossible almost to keep the runners down—the plants produced only one crop of fruit, and that no larger fruit than from the dwarfish vines around. Under our hot sun, these long stems lie wilting on the ground, while their brothers around hold up their shiny heads, rejoicing as well in the noon-day sun as in the dewey eve."

I might add more, but I think I have been particular enough—if not, I will be glad to write on any other point.

From my observation during the past few years, I am inclined to the opinion that Mr. Peabody's plan, thoroughly carried out, will succeed at the North. You will bear me witness that I have long harped upon the pre-eminent importance of cultivating the strawberry for the fruit and not for vine and blossom.

Those acclimated or trained Hovey and Scarlet vines I have taken care of in a hot-house for future experiments. It will take a year or two, with vigorous, large leaved Hoveys, to reduce their habits so as to conform easily to this treatment and bear freely without feeling the shock of the new treatment.

I regret I cannot on my favored garden spot in Palmyra, give this method a fair trial. It was not until the last fall I became fully acquainted with the details of Mr. Peabody's plan, and now I must transfer the experiment mainly to our friends in the country.

New-York, Jan. 24, 1854.

R. G. P.

### Hautbois Strawberry and Charter Oak Grape.

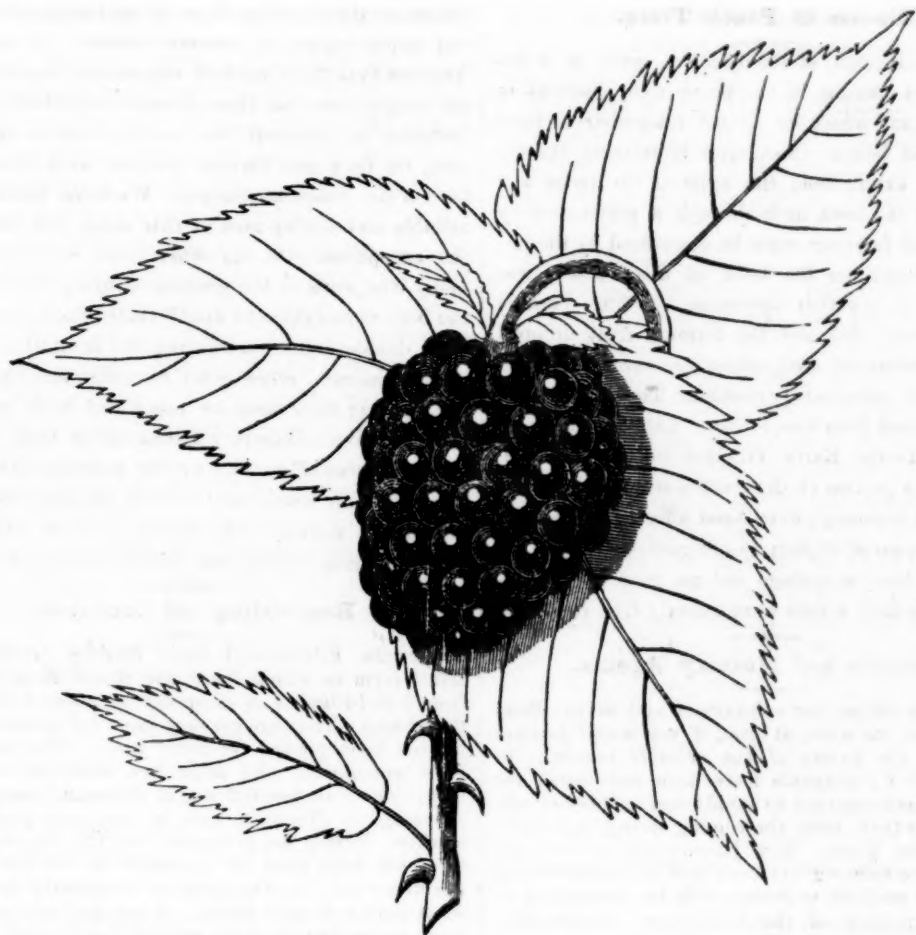
MESSRS. EDITORS—I wish to know if the strawberry known as the Prolific or Conical Hautbois is a good marketable variety; also if the Charter Oak grape is a valuable kind of grape for garden culture. Your opinion on the above mentioned fruits through the Cultivator will be thankfully received. Yours, S. HINMAN. Augusta, N. Y., Jan. 9, 1854.

The Prolific Hautbois has two qualities that greatly increase its value for market, and these are its high fruit stalks, which raise the fruit above the leaves, and thus facilitate gathering as well as keep the berries clean; and its unequalled vigor and hardness of growth. Its musky flavor is a great drawback on its general popularity, as most persons will reject it when they can get other strawberries, while a few prefer its peculiar flavor to all others.

The Charter Oak grape is very large, but from a little experience with its flavor, we incline to the opinion that it can never be much esteemed.

TO THE POINT.—A subscriber, in remitting his subscription, adds the following: "P. S. Keep to the practical, if you would *plow* among farmers. Publish all the well made experiments, and induce farmers to note their practice and its results."





#### The Lawton Blackberry.

We have been furnished with the above engraving, representing the fruit and leaf of this newly introduced blackberry. A basket of the fruit was presented to the Farmers' Club of New York, in August last, by WM. LAWTON, Esq., of New Rochelle, and they gave it the name of "Lawton Blackberry." Mr. L. says it has been cultivated, in small quantities, for several years, in his vicinity, but that he has not been able to ascertain who first discovered the plant, but is informed that it was found on the roadside, and thence introduced into the gardens. He thinks it a new variety, distinct from any heretofore noticed. The fruit, it will be seen, is much larger than the common blackberry. "It sends up," says Mr. Lawton, "annually large and vigorous upright shoots with lateral branches, all of which, under common cultivation, will be crowded with fine fruit, a portion of which ripens daily in moist seasons for six weeks, commencing about the middle of July. They are perfectly hardy, always thrifty and productive, and I have not found them liable to blight or injury by insects."

#### Dwarf Pears and Quince Stocks.

Please inform me in relation to the dwarfing of pears—how to raise the quince—when to bud—how to manage afterwards, and a dozen or so of the best varieties to work on the quince, all things considered—also,

whether any other variety of the quince will answer. E. BONSAI, L. Jr., Salem, Ohio.

We have already given full information relative to the training and management of dwarfs, and lists of some of the best sorts, and the relative value of the common quince for this purpose,—for all which our correspondent is referred to back numbers. We may now add, that the Angus quince is best propagated by first cutting down strong trees to the surface, so as to throw up numerous shoots, and then banking the soil about them for one entire season, until they have thrown out numerous roots, when they are removed and separated. Cuttings set late in autumn or very early in spring, in moist, fertile earth, will afford good moderate sized plants by autumn, but most of them will fail to root, under ordinary management. Plants may likewise be procured by layering, but these are more or less crooked from the necessary bending of the layers.

The budding is performed late in summer, or early in autumn, whenever the bark will peel freely. If done earlier, the buds are apt to start prematurely. The after management we have already described. The following pears are among the best for quince working: Angouleme, Winkfield, Osband's Summer, Louise Bonne Jersey, Diel, Easter Beurre, Doyenne Boussock, Tyson, Stevens' Genesee, Glout Morceau, Beurre d'Amalis, White Doyenne, Dearborn's Seedling, &c.

### Disease in Peach Trees.

JAMES HAMILTON, of Carlisle, Pa., gives us a description of a disease in the peach tree, observed in that region, and which we do not remember to have seen described before. Soon after blossoming, the sap appeared to exude from the axils of the twigs and sometimes of the buds, as if through a perforation by insects. None however could be discovered by the microscope. Sometimes the bark at these places was coated with a blackish substance, the limb became sickly, the leaves fell, and the forming fruit dropped off. Some branches died, others recovered. The remaining fruit attained perfection. The malady appeared to spread from tree to tree. Late peaches were most affected—the Early Tillotson entirely escaped. The trees in a portion of the garden where ashes were applied most copiously, were least affected. Washing with soap appeared slightly to mitigate the evil. Tobacco water from a syringe did no good. Some orchards within half a mile were entirely free from this disease.

### Nurseries and Nursery Agents.

You would oblige your subscribers and many others in this part of our state, at least, if you would procure and publish the names of the *reliable* nurseries in Rochester, N. Y., as agents have been canvassing our state, and have engaged to supply any number of apple and other fruit trees the coming spring, said to be grown in that place. Any information or remarks from your pen relating to the subject of transplanting trees from New-York to Maine, will be interesting to the Maine readers of the Cultivator. Respectfully yours, BENJ. ADAMS.

Among the numerous and extensive nurseries at Rochester—exceeding together in extent as they do, those of any other city in the Union, if not in the world,—it would be presumptuous to point out such as may be strictly reliable, as no one individual can be expected to know all the intricacies of operations performed during the whole year by each establishment. Each purchaser will probably have his preferences and dislikes. It is due however, to established nurseries generally, to say that the dissemination of pomological knowledge of late years, has effected a great improvement, and rendered them far more accurate and reliable than formerly, and as a general thing such nurseries may be depended upon in most cases for fruit trees which they may furnish. Those who have been familiar with horticultural publications and with general intelligence on these subjects from similar sources, are usually able to give reliable advice in their respective neighborhoods as to the best nurseries to purchase from. Trees may be safely removed from Rochester to Maine.

We would advise our correspondent, however, to receive with *extreme caution* any applications from persons claiming to be agents of nurseries of established reputation; because we happen to know there is an immense amount of imposition practiced by such persons on the community. It is common for such dealers of trees to traverse the country to obtain purchasers, and then to buy the trees to supply their orders,

wherever they can buy them at the lowest price, without much regard to accurate sources. It commonly happens that there are both rogues and honest men in all occupations; but there is more temptation and less restraint on itinerant tree dealers than on any other men, for they may furnish spurious sorts without detection till years afterwards. We have known a few reliable and worthy men of this class, but they were the exceptions. On the other hand, we have known many who were in the practice of using the names of the best nurserymen to shield their frauds, and thus, with double injustice, injuring the reputation of such establishments. Some good nurseries employ traveling agents; they may be purchased from, provided they can give satisfactory assurances of their agency.

*But we would greatly prefer sending our orders directly to the nurseries; skill in packing, and cheap and quick railway conveyance, renders this mode about as cheap as any, and infinitely more satisfactory.*

### Renovating old Orchards.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I have recently purchased a small farm on which there are about 40 apple trees from 6 to 14 inches in diameter at about 3 feet from the ground. They are growing in an old meadow which has not been plowed for many years. The trees have been untrimmed, and neglected, doubtless, in every way. The fruit last fall was of different kinds, but all agreeing in diminutiveness of size and poorness of quality. Permit me to inquire how the size and quality of the fruit may be improved by culture; but if the trees are too far gone to be greatly improved, what shall I do with them? I am loth to "cut them down as cumberers of the ground," as I shall have to wait many years for trees to grow to bearing size. Very respectfully, GEORGE W. SAVAGE. Rahway, N. J., Jan. 23, 1854.

If this orchard consists of good varieties of fruit, which have become worthless from the entire neglect of the trees, their recovery is a very simple process. Manure the land well with yard manure, and one-tenth to one-twentieth its bulk of ashes, and if convenient, half that quantity of lime or thereabouts; plow deep, and work the soil thoroughly, and a new impetus will be given to the growth of the trees. At the same time thin out the thick, decayed and stunted branches, leaving the best and most vigorous, *evenly throughout the head*, taking care to make no very large wounds, and avoiding, especially, the common practice of thinning below, and leaving all the brush above. Instead of this, thin out the *exterior* of the head, so as to let in the sun on the outside, without diminishing the *size* of the head, except to improve its *shape*.

Unless the trees are too far gone in age and decay, this treatment will soon restore vigor, and improve greatly the size and quality of the fruit.

If the ground is not too much shaded by the broad tops, crops of potatoes, beans, rutabagas, earrots, or any other low hoed crop, may be advantageously taken from the enriched soil.

The British American Cultivator says that a strong wash made of pearlsh and water, applied thrice a day, will remove tumors and warts.



**Impermanent Manures the most Permanent.**

This, at first view, seems to be contradictory. But let us look at it. Let us see whether the most impermanent manures, under a sharp, wide-awake system of farming, are not the most permanent in their effects.

A permanent manure is one, in which the plant-feeding ingredients are so far insoluble, as in coarsely crushed bones, for instance, that the plants take but little of them the first year, little the second, and so on for 20, 30, and sometimes more years. The farmer would hardly wish his manures to be permanent in this respect, because they do not give him back their money value sufficiently quick. He desires a speedier return for the value of his manures at the time of their application.

An impermanent, or quickly acting manure, on the other hand, is one in which the plant-feeding ingredients are so far soluble, that the plants take nearly or quite the whole of them the first year. The strength of the manure goes to the first crop. And yet I contend that the effects of this manure, under good management, are most permanent; because it quickly produces an increase of crops. This increase of crops, if expended on the farm, leads to an increase of stock, that to an increase of manure, that to a still greater increase of crops, and so on permanently, as long as the good management is continued. In this way will a farm soonest become rich; and not only so, but it will become capable of keeping itself rich, without the addition of manures from abroad; and thus it appears that the most impermanent, quickly acting manures, may really be the most permanent in their effects.

It is well for the farmer to apply such home fertilizers as he may have at command, though some of them may give him but a slow return. As they cost him but little, he can afford to wait for the result. But when he purchases manures, it should be with the expectation of getting the whole cost and something more back in the first crop.

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**Clearing and Cultivating New Land.**

MESSRS. EDITORS—Premising that I have sixty acres of land, twenty of it bottom and forty of upland, all timbered with oak, 'good corn or wheat soil,' and that I am a novice, I take the liberty of making the following inquiries:

1. What is the best method of bringing the bottom into meadow?
2. What is the best method of clearing the upland so as to put in a crop the coming spring, and what crop?
3. To what purposes should the land be devoted so as to make it profitable?
4. What portion should be reserved for woodland?
5. If an orchard is to be set out, what situation would be best, a northern, southern, eastern or western exposure?
6. What books would prove of benefit to me, the price, and where to be procured? An answer will much oblige NOVICE. *Pine Grove, Gallia county, Ohio, Jan. 13, 1854.*

1. Having never settled in the "back woods" or "out west," we cannot speak from actual experience as to the best way of clearing new land, and bringing it into cultivation. No doubt the mode of clearing

would be much modified by the character of the timber, its uses, distance from a lumber market and saw-mill, value of fire-wood, &c.

2. It often happens that by thorough harrowing, a sown crop may be put in new land before it is in fit condition to plow, but for ordinary cultivation, the sooner the stumps are extirpated the better, and to assist their decay, a pile of turf or earth placed on each is a good thing.

3. The most profitable cropping must depend on the peculiarities of the locality—the capacity of the soil, nature of markets, &c., but in all places, a good rotation, which shall enrich instead of impoverish the soil, is indispensable. The nature of this rotation, and the system of cropping pursued, must be founded on principles laid down by the best writers, assisted by the best general practice, and by the farming of the best cultivators in that particular region.

4. The portion reserved for woodland must depend greatly on circumstances—the probable value of timber in future years—the amount of fuel required—the present value of the land if cleared, &c. We have never been able to learn the precise number of acres required to keep up a certain continued supply of fuel, without diminishing the woodland; and if any of our readers possess any definite information on the subject, they would confer a great favor by communicating it.

5. Elevated portions of land are best for all tender fruits—with hardy sorts, like the apple, they are still best, but not so indispensable. Tender fruits should have a northern or western exposure, rather than a southern or eastern, as this exposure hardens them, and prevents destruction by frost.

6. The "American Farmer's Encyclopædia," (\$4,) for farming, and the "American Fruit Culturist," (\$1,) for fruit. They can be had at most bookstores.

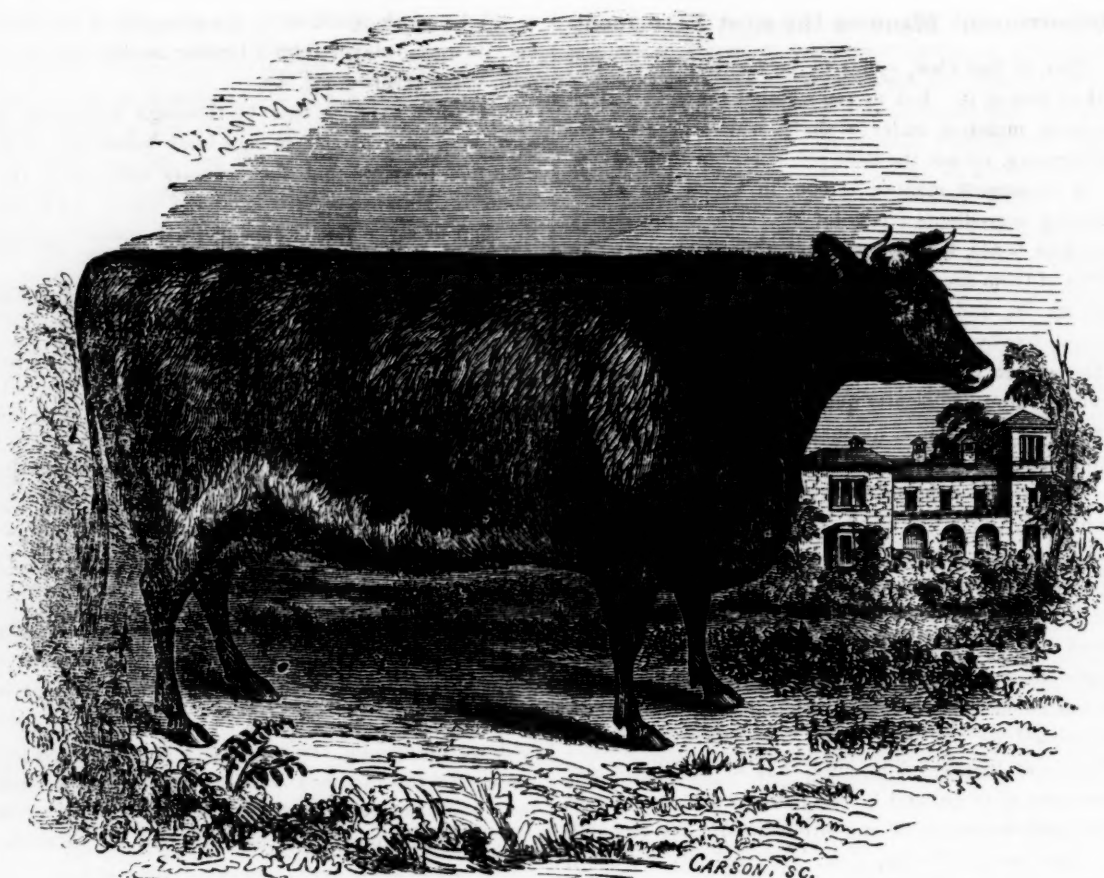
**Mowing Machines.**

MESSRS. EDITORS—I am pleased to see you answer your correspondent so explicitly in regard to mowing machines. I have taken much pains to examine other kinds, and have come to the conclusion that Ketchum's machine is by far the best yet made.

I think the improvements he has made by an entire change of gear, and by the addition of the counter-balance, which acts as a balance wheel to regulate the motion of the knives, have added greatly to the value and durability of the machine.

With a good team, tolerably good mowing ground, and observing the directions, which are plain, there is no fear of a failure. Stones and sticks should be cleared from the ground. ONE WHO HAS USED ONE. *Connecticut, Feb. 6, 1854.*

FANCY POULTRY IN ENGLAND.—The Mark Lane Express, speaking of the last poultry show at Birmingham, says that the "best classes were the Dorking and the Spanish. The Cochins and Shanghais were as plentiful as ever, but never did they seem to attract so little notice, and never, certainly, to command so little admiration."



**Improved Short-Horned Cow Jacintha, from a drawing by H. Strafford, Esq.**

*The Property of LEWIS G. MORRIS and NOEL J. BECAR, Esqs.*

We have great pleasure in publishing this portrait of Jacintha, as we consider it one of the best yet executed in this country. It is reduced from the original drawing in the Herd-Book by Mr. STRAFFORD, the present editor of that work, to whom many of our countrymen, while in England for the purpose of purchasing or examining the best English herds, are under great obligations for attentions and facilities which were of essential service, and which will long be held in grateful remembrance. For its accurate reduction and drawing on the block, we are indebted to Mr. E. FORBES, of New-York.

"JACINTHA," calved Feb. 15, 1846, was bred by Mr. T. Beasley, Overstone, and purchased by L. G.

MORRIS, Esq., in 1852, though not brought over till Oct., 1853, of Mr. J. S. TANQUERAY, Hendon, an account of whose celebrated herd of Short-Horned cattle was published in the Country Gentleman of 1st Dec. last. She is now the property of Messrs. MORRIS and BECAR, who also own a bull calf, sired by their imported bull "Balco," (9,918,) dropped by her previous to her shipment last summer, and not as yet brought to this country. We copy her pedigree from the Herd-Book:

Jacintha, red, calved Feb. 15, 1846; got by Fawsley (6,004)—dam (Junta) by Warden (5,595)—g. d. (Joyance) by Javelin (4,093)—gr. g. d. (Joy) by Blyth (797), — (Janette) by Wellington (684), — by Phenomenon (491), — by Favorite (252), — by Favorite (252), — Favorite (252), — by Hubback (319), — by Snowdon's bull (612), — by Waisell's bull (669), — by Masterman's bull (422), — by the Studley bull (626.)

**Inquiry about Cattle.**

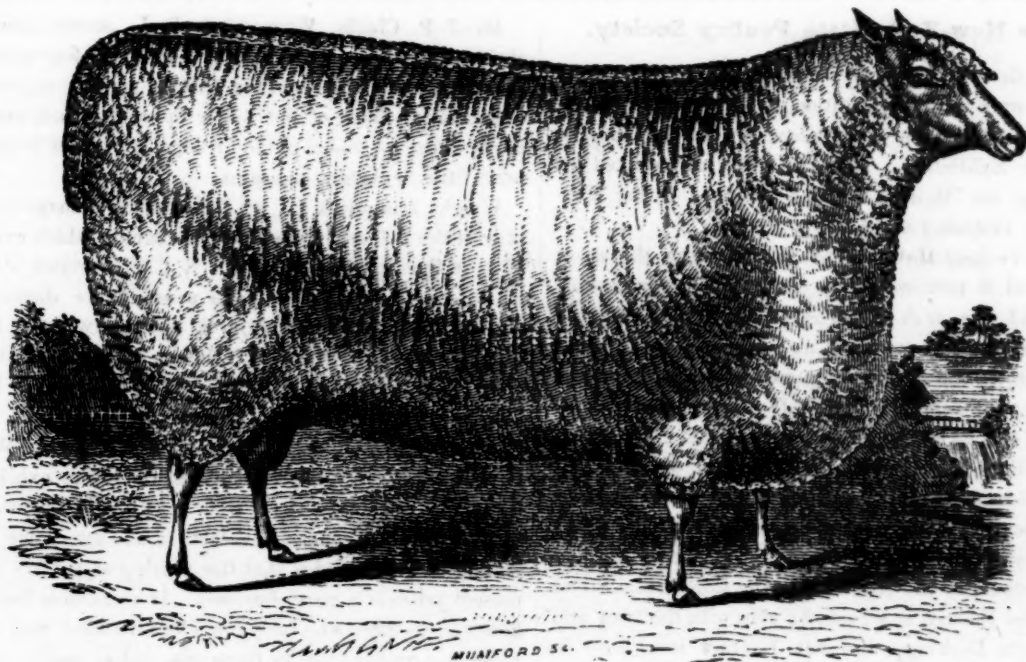
MR. TUCKER—Dear Sir—I wish to make a few inquiries through the columns of your paper, if you think it proper, respecting my cattle.

I wish to ascertain the cause why my cattle have such a hankering for old bones, boards, chips, and old leather; they will take an old bone, boot or shoe, and chew it for hours. Last summer my cows found a pile of old bones in the highway, about fifty rods south of my house, and every morning as soon as they were turned from the yard (having to cross the highway to the pasture,) they would run for the pile of bones as though a dog were close upon them. I may add,

that such were their inclination for old bones, that there was no stopping them until each one had a bone, to carry with them to the pasture—then they would stand and chew it for hours before eating any thing. Those that seem to be the most affected in this way, gradually lose their flesh and become very poor; they seem to eat well, but appear very dumpish—stiff in the joints and weak across the back, so much so that they can hardly move. Now sir, if I could be rightly informed of the cause and remedy, you would confer a favor which would be highly satisfactory.

P. S. I have fed my cows for a remedy, bone meal, ashes, rock salt, and old bones dissolved or made soft by standing in a solution of lye and potash. This they eat very voraciously, but all of my experiments have been very much limited, as I have not been certain that either of them would effect a cure. Yours truly, A. T. TUTTLE. Enfield, January 12, 1854.





New-Oxfordshire Ram,

**New Oxfordshire Sheep.**

There are many breeds of sheep in our country and each breed, undoubtedly, has its advocates. With some, the French Merinoes are the sheep par excellence, while the Spanish and Silesian Merinoes and Saxons have each their advocates. Which of these fine woolled varieties is best, I leave for others to decide; they all have their merits, and for *fine wool*, are undoubtedly superior to any of the breeds called Mutton sheep; but while the greater part of our farmers give their attention to the raising of *fine wool*, it is fortunate that a few turn their attention to producing *fine mutton*; and for this purpose, I think there can be no doubt the new Oxfordshires cannot be excelled, if even equalled. They are *large* and *lazy*, (the latter quality, it is well known, is very favorable to the taking on of fat,) have *short* limbs and wide and deep chests with hardy constitutions and a great aptness to fatten, and with all, shear *heavy* fleeces of *very long* silky wool. A year ago this winter I purchased three of these sheep, of John T. Andrew, Esq., of West Cornwall, Ct., and I have just purchased four more fine ewes, of the same gentleman, which he assures me have all been with his new buck that he had purchased at great expense, and which, he thinks is the best buck in America of his age. Should I be fortunate in raising lambs I hope to be able to show something pretty nice by another fall. I have one sheep, two years old, of my first purchase, that would make an epicure's mouth water. E. L. HOLDEN. *North Clarendon, Vt., Jan. 16th, 1854.*

**Horn Distemper, &c., in Cows.**

MESSRS. EDITORS—I have from my boyhood, been acquainted with, and administered for the disease in cows called Horn Distemper, Horn Ail, &c., and have

never failed of effecting a speedy cure, nor did my father, who for many years used the same simple remedy,

As I have but little faith in the medicine generally used in this disease, and as I abhor the unwarrantable, murderous quackery of administering cider brandy in any case to the brute creation, as is the practice of some of our illiterate country cow doctors, I have concluded to solicit of you, for the benefit of your readers, the privilege of giving them my mode of cure.

My rule is to prescribe immediately after the symptoms appear, which are, want of appetite, coldness of the horns, dryness of the nose, and dullness of the eyes. With a small gimblet I bore a hole about three inches from where the horn connects with the head, into which, with a small syringe, I inject once a day, about two table spoonfuls of vinegar, to which there has been previously added of each, one tea spoonful of black pepper and salt. The hole should be kept closed with some kind of wax, except when administering the medicine.

CHARLES BABCOCK.

**Profitable Sheep.**

MESSRS. EDITORS—Seeing a statement in the Country Gentleman, of B. H. HARVEY, in regard to sheep husbandry, I take the liberty to inform your readers that we can do something away up here in northern Vermont. My friend Ishmael Comstock, makes the following statement. He had 14 sheep, of what is called the Native sheep, which sheared

66 lbs of wool that sold for 40c. per lb.,	\$26.40
8 Lambs, \$1.50,	12.00
6 Lambs, \$2.00,	12.00
1 Lamb, sold when young,	50

Making,..... \$50.90

or an average of \$3.62 per head. Said sheep were kept where they could run in and out of a shed at pleasure, and had nothing but good hay, and plenty of water if they had a mind to go and get it. They have a good plank floor that keeps them dry. I have not given the cost of keeping, but we probably can keep sheep at as little expense as any where in the country. WM. BREWSTER. *Enosburgh, Jan. 13, 1854.*

### The New-York State Poultry Society.

The list of Premiums offered by the Society were thrown open to the competition of the country, and Albany was fixed upon as the place for holding the first Annual Exhibition. The exhibition commenced on Tuesday, the 7th inst., and was continued during Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Van Vechten Hall, the place of holding the show, presented a rare collection of fowls of every possible form and hue, such as has never before been gathered in this country at one time and place. The different varieties of the *Asiatics* figured most largely in the display, but representatives of almost every known class of domesticated birds were present. The aristocratic Game Fowl looked proud defiance at the larger proportions of the quiet and corpulent Shanghai; the noble bearing and glossy plumage of the Black Spanish showed in fine contrast with the uneasy air and dull feathers of the Hamburgs; the Golden and Silver Spangled Polands stood side by side with the trim and well-built Dorkings; the wee Bantam was there in his beauty, looking wonderingly at his distant relatives, the Chinamen. The gobble of the Turkey was heard, strangely out of tune with the squeak of the Guinea Fowl, and the shrill tenor of the crow of the smaller cocks did not chord well with the cracked bass of the long necked Cochin Chinas. Then there were Aylesbury, Black Cayuga, Muscovy and Top-knot Ducks; Bremen, Chinese, African and Wild Geese; fan-tailed, ruffle-necked, carrier, tumbler, spot and Malta Pigeons; Chinese and English Pheasants; Prairie Hens and Quails; a pair of American Eagles, and a long row of Black and Tan and Rat Terrier Dogs, that constituted a sort of special police, charged with the guardianship of the assembled convention of poultry.

There were in all something more than fifty exhibitors, and the number of fowls on exhibition is estimated at from twelve to fifteen hundred. Among the more prominent exhibitors from this section may be mentioned W. H. Southwick, of New Baltimore, who showed over thirty coops of varieties; J. W. Platt of Rhinebeck who had nearly the same number; E. E. Platt, Albany, who exhibited more than twenty coops; G. M. Van Alstyne, Greenbush, ten coops; Geo. Anderson, Albany, ten coops; J. W. Goddard, Albany, five; and numerous other smaller exhibitions.

Among exhibitors from a distance, D. P. Newell, of Rochester, made a very extensive show. The first premium was awarded him for that variety of Shanghais known as Brahma Pootras, and these fowls were certainly very fine. They did not show the coarseness and slovenliness of some of the large fowls, and are bred very true to color. They were more compactly built and of more beautiful proportion than any others of the same variety we ever saw.

Mr. McGowen, of Philadelphia, exhibited one cock and two hens of the Buff Shanghai, imported by Mr. Rudman of Philadelphia, which were very much admired. They were symmetrical in form and their plumage was faultless. The owner refused \$150 for the trio.

Mr. J. P. Childs, Woonsocket, R. I., showed some choice specimens. Among these we noticed four superior cocks and four hens of the Chittagong variety, one cock and two hens of the Black Spanish, which were most perfect specimens of the breed, and a trio of inimitable little Seabright Bantams.

Wright, Gilmore & Co., of Utica, made a large display of the different varieties of Shanghais, which were of more than medium quality. R. C. McCormick, Jr., of Jamaica, L. I., also made a creditable display. Among other exhibitors from a distance were T. B. Miner and W. G. Hart, of Clinton; A. Hudson and John C. Hanchett, of Syracuse; D. S. Heffron, R. U. Sherman and W. Bates of Utica; L. D. St. George, of Oneida Co.; and J. W. Herring of Onondaga Co. We have not space to speak at more length of the exhibitors or the relative merits of their stock. The whole affair passed off to general satisfaction, and every one is willing to acknowledge that the rearing of poultry at present prices is a great business. It commends itself, however, to those who keep fowls for ornament and as a pastime, rather than to those who raise poultry for market and for the eggs. Still the advocates of the Shanghais insist that they are intrinsically worth from one-third to one-half more than the ordinary fowls for producing eggs and dressing for market.

On Wednesday evening David Taggart, of Northumberland, Pa., delivered an address before the Society, in which he eulogized the genus *gallus* in classic phrase,—spoke of some of the peculiarities and excellencies of the various breeds of fowls, and maintained that the Cochin Chinas, Brahma Pootras, &c., were all derived from the Shanghais, and only differed in color and other unessential particulars which were determined by breeding with care. The address was interspersed with considerable humor, and a deal of talk not dignified enough to print.

#### POULTRY.

The following award of premiums was made:

##### GALLINACEOUS FOWLS.

Best and largest variety of pure bred fowls, bred by the exhibitor, D. P. Newell, Rochester, a Silver Cup valued at \$25. Second do., J. W. Platt, Rhinebeck, \$10.—Best and largest variety of pure bred fowls, owned by exhibitor, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, a Silver Cup valued at \$25. Second do., D. S. Heffron, Utica, \$10.

##### ASIATIC FOWLS.

Best variety of Asiatic Fowls, of whatever sub-variety, J. P. Childs, Rhode Island, \$10.

*Shanghais*—Best pair or trio, Red or Buff, Jno. McGowen, Philadelphia, \$5.—Second do., A. A. Hudson, Syracuse, \$3.—Best pair or trio of Black, J. W. Herring, Marcellus, \$5.—Second do., M. H. Smith, Skaneateles, \$3.—Best pair or trio of White, A. A. Hudson, Syracuse, \$5.—Second do., George Anderson, Albany, \$3.—Best pair or trio of Dominique colored, D. P. Newell, Rochester, \$5.—Second do., J. E. M. Van Alstyne, Greenbush, \$3.

*Cochin China*—Best pair or trio, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, \$5. Second do., George Anderson, Albany, \$3.

*Brahma Pootra*—Best pair or trio, D. P. Newell, Rochester, \$5. Second do., Wright, Gilmore & Co., Utica, \$3.

*Chittagong*—Best pair or trio, D. Craw, Conn., \$5. Second do., C. Boutique, Lansingburgh, \$3.

*White Calcutta*—Second best pair or trio, D. S. Heffron, Utica, \$3.

*Black Java*—Best pair or trio, J. W. Platt, Rhinebeck, \$5. Second do., W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, \$3.

*Hong Kong*—Best pair or trio, T. B. Miner, Clinton, Oneida county, \$5. Second do., D. S. Heffron, Utica, \$3.



## OTHER FOWLS.

**Black Spanish**—Best pair or trio, James Kellen, Germantown, Pa., \$5. Second do., J. P. Childs, Rhode Island, \$3. Third do., D. S. Heffron, Utica, \$2.

**Dorking**—Best trio of white, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, \$4. Second do., of Grey or Speckled, J. M. Sherwood, Auburn, \$2.

**Gamburghs**—Best trio of Spangled Hamburghs, D. St. George, York Mills, Oneida county, \$3.

**Game**—Best pair or trio of Sumatra, T. B. Miner, Clinton, Oneida county, \$5. Do of Earl Derby, J. W. Platt, Rhinebeck, \$5. American Game, second best, C. E. Platt, Albany, \$3. Earl Derby Cock, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, (discretionary,) \$1.

**Polish**—Best trio, White or Black, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, \$3—Best pair of Silver Spangled, E. E. Platt, Albany, \$3—Second do, C. W. Godard, Albany, \$2.

**Bantams**—Best trio Gold Laced Seabright, I. P. Childs, Rhode Island, \$5—Second do, W. Walsh, Bethlehem, \$3—Best trio of Java, E. E. Platt, Albany, \$3—Second do, African, D. S. Heffron, Utica, \$2.

## GESE.

**Bremen**—Best pair, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, \$5—Second do, C. W. Godard, Albany, \$3.

**African**—Best pair, C. W. Godard, Albany, \$5—Second do, R. C. McCormick, Long Island, \$3.

**Wild**—Best pair, E. M. Van Alstyne, Greenbush, \$5—Second do, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, \$3.

## PIGEONS.

Best and largest variety owned by exhibitor, C. Bontiene, Lansingburgh, \$5—Best pair of any distinct variety, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, \$2.

## RABBITS.

**Lop Eared**—Second best pair, S. V. C. Van Rensselaer, Claverack, \$2.

## RAT TERRIER DOGS.

Pair White Scotch Terrier, John Grievez, New-York, \$2. One Black and Tan Terrier, J. M. Lovett, Albany, \$1.

## TURKEYS.

**Wild**—Best pair, E. E. Platt, Albany, \$5.

**Domestic**—Best pair, Reynolds & Co., \$5. Second do., T. W. Ludlow, Yonkers, \$3.

## GUINEA FOWLS.

Best pair, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, \$3. Second do., E. E. Platt, \$2.

## PEA FOWLS.

Best pair, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, \$3. Second do., C. W. Godard, Albany, \$2.

## DUCKS.

**Muscovy**—Best pair J. W. Platt, Rhinebeck, \$5. Second do., D. P. Newell, Rochester, \$3.

**Aylesbury**—Best pair, W. H. Southwick, New Baltimore, \$5. Second do., R. C. McCormick, Jr., Long Island, \$3.

**Top Knot**—Best pair, D. S. Heffron, Utica, \$5. Second do., D. P. Newell, Rochester, \$3.

Notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather, it is understood that the receipts will more than pay premiums and expenses.

On Thursday a meeting of the society was held, and several important additions made to the by-laws and regulations.

The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:

**President**—D. S. HEFFRON, Utica.  
**Vice-Presidents**—Francis Rotch, Butternuts; M. Vassar, Poughkeepsie; Lewis F. Allen, Black Rock.  
**Cor. Secretary**—R. C. McCormick, Jr., Woodhaven, L. I.  
**Rec. Secretary and Treasurer**—R. U. Sherman, Utica.  
**Managers**—Samuel T. Tabor, Dutchess; Thos. W. Ludlow, Jr., Yonkers; Samuel Thorne, New-York city; C. W. Godard, Albany; A. P. Hammond, Westport, Essex co.; W. H. Southwick, New-Baltimore; Samuel S. Beman, Hampton, Washington co.; George St. George, York Mills, Oneida co.; Thomas Gould, Cayuga co.; A. A. Hudson, Syracuse; R. H. Van Rensselaer, Otsego co.; F. W. Collins, Ontario co.; Isaac E. Haviland, L. I.; Abner Baker, Rochester; Wm. Walsh, Bethlehem, Albany co.; John H. Cole, Columbia co.; D. W. C. Van Slyck, Wayne co.; J. Wyman Jones, Utica; N. S. Smith, Buffalo; Curtis Moses, Syracuse.

**POULTRY SALE**.—DANIEL WARREN, of Newark, Kendall Co., Ill., purchased twenty Shanghai fowls of GEO. ANDERSON, of this city, last week, for which, we are informed, he paid \$80.

## Care of Cows, Profits, &amp;c.

**MESSERS. EDITORS**—If I could see your subscriber who wishes to know how to keep cows from lying down in their manure when in the stable, I would tell him how I do it.

The place where I keep my cow was not designed for a stable, but I find the size is just what is needed. It is 12 feet by 7. I do not tie up my cow, nor would I if I had any number that I milked.

In the back end of the stable I put a division, by placing a plank 8 inches wide, on the edge. Four feet from the end in this division, I put litter. This is her bed, 4 by 7, but which is about right for common sized cows. The rest of the stable I keep clean. When the cow stands at the manger, her hind feet come nearly back to her bed, but not so near as to drop anything on to it.

I have a large window in the back, which I keep open during the day, and she usually stands with her head out as far as she can reach, with her fore feet in her bed and her hind ones near the same place that they are when she stands at her manger. These two positions she occupies the most of the time, and in neither case does she drop anything on to her bed. I do not clear the litter every day, but let it remain as high as the edge of the plank, and occasionally throw it out.

In no instance have I found a speck upon her this winter, and her hair is as clean as any time in the summer.

**ONE WORD ABOUT CURRYING**.—I cannot say how much good it does an animal, but if my cow sees me with the card in my hand, I cant get away from her till I give her a good scratching. She will hold up her feet to have them scratched, and I think if farmers would begin with their young animals, they would not be troubled with stubborn cows or oxen.

The inquiry is often made, is it profitable for a man to keep a cow for his own use?

I have sometimes kept a cow and sometimes have been without. My bill for milk and butter has not varied much from 60 to 65 dollars.

My cow eats 2½ tons of hay weighed in haying at 10.00 per ton. . . . . \$25.00  
 Pasturing. . . . . 8.00  
 And supposing we throw in. . . . . 7.00

Making. . . . . \$40.00

Then there is as much milk as you wish, and a little for your neighbor, to be returned when your cow is dry; and for the trouble you may strike the balance with the manure heap and pig. W. A. ELA. Munson, Mass., Jan. 11th, 1854.

## Trench Plowing for Young Trees.

Would the Michigan sod and sub-soil plow be an improvement on the common plow for preparing nursery ground for young trees. J. W. G. Balls Pond, Ct.

We have found it the best implement which has come to our knowledge for deepening the soil to a depth of one foot, when preparing for a nursery of young trees, as it runs deeper than the ordinary plow can be made to work.

## Notes for the Month.

## AN IMPOSTOR

Within the past month we have received letters from about a dozen different places in Ohio, making inquiries about a person who had been soliciting subscribers in their vicinity for "The Cultivator." A gentleman writes us from Springvale, as follows:

I write for information concerning a man, purporting to be your agent. He was in our neighborhood about the first of Dec. last, and must have obtained, in a short distance around Chillicothe, nearly forty subscribers, a majority of whom paid him the subscription price, \$1.00.

No papers having been received, as yet, I deem it prudent to inquire whether you authorized such a man to act as agent here. He was a man of middle age, rather short and heavy set—full-faced—had sandy hair, I think, and called himself MCGIFFIN. He traveled on foot, as far as I heard from him.

Another gentleman at Washington, Fayette Co., says:

Some time in November last a man came into this neighborhood, representing himself to be an authorized agent for your paper, and got quite a number of subscribers, stating that we would receive two copies per month, one of reading matter and one of plates. We have received no paper and have heard nothing from the man, and now address you to know what is wrong. He was about fifty years of age, heavy set, rather pleasing address, and quite gentlemanly. We paid one dollar each for the paper, and would be glad to hear from you whether we have been hoaxed, or whether the papers have been sent and went the wrong way. The man had sample copies of your paper bound, and also a copy of plates.

This MCGIFFIN, or whoever he is, is an arrant impostor. It will be seen that he not only charged double the subscription price, but in some instances promised that the Nos. should be accompanied by a book of plates. We shall be greatly obliged to the editors in Ohio, with whom we exchange, if they will caution the public against him.

NOT YET TOO LATE!—As the pages of THE CULTIVATOR are stereotyped, we are enabled to supply all new subscribers with the back Nos. at whatever time of the year their names are sent in; and we would remind all those who are disposed to aid in extending its circulation that there is room for more names on our books. Now is the time to procure subscribers before spring work commences, and all who wish their neighbors to be benefited by reading THE CULTIVATOR, are invited to act as Agents, and to send forward such names as they may procure at any and all times during the year.

Remember, eight copies for \$3. Those who have sent \$3, can add any number to their club at 37½ cents.

"ALBANY AGRICULTURAL WORMS."—The large establishment known under this title, which has been carried on by the firm of EMERY & Co., for some years past, has been sold to Mr. R. H. PEASE, of this city, by whom the entire business will hereafter be conducted. He will be assisted in the manufacturing department by WM. B. EMERY, and in his general business by HENRY D. EMERY, both of whom have been connected with the business since its first establishment here. The EMERYS have labored with most untiring energy to build up an establishment which is alike creditable to the city and the state, and now that they

have been compelled by circumstances entirely beyond their control, to retire from it, we are glad to know that it has gone into the possession of a gentleman whose character, business energy, and capital, will enable him to prosecute the business with satisfaction to the public, and, we trust, profit to himself.

Our correspondent "F. C. L." who writes us from Rahway, N. J., will find a letter, addressed as above, at the Rahway post office, to which we should be glad to receive an early answer.

SOUTH DOWN SHEEP.—We are gratified to learn that JONATHAN THORNE, Esq., has employed a competent artist to make models of several of the fine animals which he imported the last season. There is no way in which the superiority of such animals can be better exhibited to the multitudes who never have the opportunity of seeing them, and we hope ere long to see in the museum of our State Ag. Society, a collection of models of all the fine breeds of domestic animals. Mr. THORNE will please accept our thanks for a model of one of his beautiful South Down ewes. It can be seen at our office.

W. H. S., Rochester, Mich., inquires "about the Samson stock of horses." We do not know to what stock he refers, unless to the descendants of the valuable pair of cart horses imported by Messrs. CORNING and SOTHAM in 1840, the stallion being known by the name of "Samson." He was an animal of great strength and of more activity than is generally ascribed to this breed. He was taken west many years since, and we have heard little of his stock.

ILLINOIS.—Extract of a letter from a subscriber at Ottawa, dated Jan. 27:—"Very severe cold. Saturday morning, 20th inst., 10° below, and on Monday morning, 16° below zero, at this place; otherwise very pleasant. Corn coming into town in large quantities, and of average good quality; 38 cts. yesterday. Corn pays moderately well at 25 cts. At one period last summer, corn went up to 60 cts. for old. Our farmers are buying excellent lands, and if able to make first payment down, (generally one-fourth,) the remaining three payments are made from crops raised off same lands, besides maintaining the family heartily, but not daintily perhaps. Lands within five miles of town, about \$5—twenty miles from town, northwardly, same price; southwardly, ten to twenty miles, three to five dollars; eastwardly and westwardly, (being on the line of canal, railroad and river,) varying from fifteen to fifty dollars."

SEEDS OF THE HAWTHORN.—F. MCKAY, of Nova Scotia, wishes to know a method of inducing the seeds of the English Hawthorn to grow the first year. We do not know of any means to accomplish this purpose. The author of the article "FENCES," in Morton's Cyclopaedia, who has planted annually for 20 years from 10 to 30 bushels of the seed, knows of no better way to treat them, than to gather them in autumn when fully ripe—lay them in a thin heap to rot, and prevent heating—afterwards with one-third their bulk of sand



or mould, in a larger heap—covered with soil, like a potato heap, 3 to 6 inches thick. Remaining thus through summer, they are sown late in autumn. Autumn sowing he thinks decidedly best, but a few prefer spring, who fear cold weather, mice, &c. The Hawthorn generally fails as a hedge in the United States, but may succeed possibly, in Nova Scotia.

**INFLUENCE OF SALT ON THE CHERRY.**—F. McKAY, of Nova Scotia, writes us, "We have here the English Blackheart Cherry, which bears abundantly if planted near the salt water—if not, it is not worth a straw."

**FINE APPLES.**—We tender our thanks to P. H. WARREN, Esq., of Mohawk, Herkimer county, for half a barrel of very fine Apples, including the Baldwin, Bellflower, Middle apple, &c. The Middle apple originated in Herkimer county, and is one of the best apples at this season. Mr. Warren says "that with us, as a desert apple, it stands at the top; but is not profitable to grow for market, unless it can be improved by cultivation, as with us it is a shy bearer, and has too large a proportion of unfair fruit." It is well worthy of trial in other localities, where it may prove more productive.

**THE NEXT OHIO STATE FAIR.**—The State Board of Agriculture lately held a meeting in Columbus, and resolved to hold the next State Fair at Newark. Licking Co., on the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th of September, 1854.

**ADDISON CO. (VT.) AG. SOCIETY.**—The Eleventh Annual Meeting was held at Middlebury, Jan. 18, at which the premiums on Field Crops were awarded. The first premium on *Winter Wheat* was taken by Alvin Squier, of New-Haven, for 53 bushels and 44 lbs. per acre; the 2d by Oliver Smith, of New-Haven, for 33½ bushels, and the 3d by Walter Barton, for 29 bushels. For *Spring Wheat*, Allen Smith, of Addison, received the first premium, for 23 bushels per acre. The first, second and third premiums on *Corn* were awarded for 122 bushels and 19 lbs.; 94½ bushels; and 91½ bushels. Allen Smith, of Addison, received the first premium on potatoes, having raised 105 bushels on ¼ acre. The yield of all the other premium crops was about in the same proportion, and speaks well for the farming in Addison county.

**ONONDAGA.**—The Agricultural Society at its annual meeting on the 17th, elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

*President*—JASON C. WOODRUFF.  
*Vice-Presidents*—Edmond D. Cobb and Luther Baker.  
*Recording Secretary*—Henry D. Didama.  
*Corresponding Secretary*—Davis Cassit.  
*Treasurer*—James S. Davis.

**CLINTON CO. AG. SOCIETY.**—At the annual meeting held at Plattsburgh, Jan. 24, the following officers were elected for this year:

*President*—JOHN W. BAILEY, Plattsburgh.  
*Vice-Presidents*—John W. Hubbell, Chazy; Isaac Smith, Plattsburgh; Calvin Everest, Peru; Silas M. Taylor, Schuylers Falls; Abram P. Allen, Saranac; A. J. Moses, Champlain; Z. G. Whitney, Mooers; D. K. Lapham, Peru; Thomas Crook, Beekmantown; John Nichols, Plattsburgh.  
*Secretary*—John L. Stetson, Plattsburgh.  
*Treasurer*—Zephaniah C. Platt, Plattsburgh.

### Credentials of the Country Gentleman.

As evidence that the purposes of the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN are carried out in its weekly issues, we make a few extracts from the correspondence we are in receipt of. Whether regarded as an Agricultural and Horticultural journal, as a Companion for the Fireside, or as a Record of the Times, it is admitted by those every way competent to judge, to be unexcelled by any similar publication in the country.

A gentleman in Massachusetts, distinguished for his scientific attainments and his practical skill as an agriculturist, writes us:

"I cannot close without expressing the gratification I feel in reading the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN from week to week. If the hearty approbation of a single reader is of any worth to you, you have mine most heartily, I assure you."

"The AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT is just what the farmers of our country want—a candid, cautious, wise exhibition of well ascertained truths, bearing upon the interests of that most valuable and all-important class of every community."

"Whether your HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT contains all that the professional gardener would require is more than I know. That it contains such matter, and just about as much, as the fathers, mothers, sons and daughters of our farm-houses ought to have weekly spread before them, I am quite sure. You are right to encourage sober, economical, good taste in the arrangements of farm-houses and their surroundings. God has made the world beautiful as well as productive; and the dwellers under his broad heavens should be often told how, without an extravagant expense, they may add beauty to productiveness on their premises."

"Of the FIRESIDE DEPARTMENT, what shall I say? I know not who has charge of it; but whoever he is, he does up his work admirably. I read gentlemen's magazines and ladies' magazines; works of fact and of fiction; of good taste and of no taste; grave, gay and sober; but I find nothing that is 'got up' in better style, or that, by the intrinsic worth of its matter, better deserves a place on the center table than the Fireside Department of the Country Gentleman. It was a happy thought thus to unite so much that is tasteful, intellectually pleasing and morally elevating, with the other and more every-day matter of fact, practical departments of a weekly visitant to so many of the excellent families, scattered throughout our land."

Another gentleman who has traveled largely among the farmers in different parts of the country writes:

"I hear but one opinion expressed with regard to the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, namely, that it stands first and foremost among papers of its class, and that it deserves an unlimited circulation among the farms and homes of the land. It is fully up to the progressive spirit of the times without being ultra in its tone; it is cautious and conservative without being one-sided and empirical; its fireside department is instructive without being dull and prosy, lively without being low-lived, humorous without being vulgar. The Record of the Times is the most complete digest of current events that I know of."

Another correspondent, in sending his subscription, says:

"I cannot refrain from expressing to you the great satisfaction I have had in reading the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN. I consider it the most valuable family paper for the Farmer that I know of, and I cannot doubt but your list of subscribers will steadily, if not rapidly increase. If I can influence any of my neighbors to subscribe to it, I consider I am doing them and their friends a material service."

From a gentleman in Western New-York:

"I consider the Country Gentleman the BEST paper for our farmers I have yet seen, and wish it might be in the family of every tiller of the soil in the land."

A subscriber at Pittsburgh, (Pa.) says

"I read the Country Gentleman with much pleasure and profit; and I think there is but one sentiment among its numerous readers, and that is, that it is the leading agricultural periodical of our country, useful and practical."

The COUNTRY GENTLEMAN is published weekly, at \$2 a year. Address LUTHER TUCKER, Albany, N. Y.

Specimen numbers sent to all desiring them.

**CORN SHELLERS.**—"Which is the best and cheapest corn sheller for hand use?" This question is by a correspondent in Iowa, and by another in this state. We know of none better than the one known as the "Clinton Corn Sheller," and which can be had at all agricultural warehouses, for \$9 or \$10.

**S. F. C., Freindsville, Pa.**—We have an article waiting insertion, which will answer your inquiries fully.

**BROOKFIELD TOWN AG. SOCIETY.**—The Brookfield (Madison co.) Agricultural Society held its fourth annual meeting, Jan. 10, 1854, at which time the following officers were elected, viz:

*President*—STEPHEN HOXIE.

*Vice-Presidents*—Oliver B. Hinkley, David P. Curtis.

*Secretary*—L. A. Saunders.

*Treasurer*—Luke Hoxie.

*Executive Committee*—Lewis D. Maxson, Horace Babcock, S. H. Bardick, H. Hill, Silas Whitford, Dr. A. L. Saunders, P. Greene, A. Babcock and O. P. Babcock.

#### FUNDS.

Cash on hand last year and interest, ..... \$94 91  
Receipts of cash for current year, ..... 351 85  
50 vols. Trans. American Institute, donated by State Society, estimated, ..... 50 00

\$496 76

Expenses of Fair and Premiums, including 33 vols. of Trans. American Institute, ..... 213 84

\$282 92

The distribution of some of the best agricultural papers as premiums by the Society, seems to do much for the benefit of the town and for sustaining the organization.  
**A. L. SAUNDERS, Ex. Sec'y.**

#### Trees at Low Prices.

**TO** Dealers and other Wholesale Purchasers. The subscribers are obliged, by demands upon their lands for building purposes, to remove a large portion of their stock of trees. They therefore offer many varieties, both of fruit and ornamental trees and shrubs, at very greatly reduced prices. For particulars, address **PARSONS & CO.,** March 1—m&wform Flushing, near New-York.

#### Prouty & Mears' Plow.

**A** LARGE assortment of these celebrated Plows can be found at the North River Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 53 Cortlandt-street, New-York.  
March 1—mtf **GEO. H. BARR & CO.**

#### Superphosphate.

**N**O expense has been spared in the combination of this most fertilizing manure, which contains the natural properties of plants. It is superior to most of the articles offered for sale under the same name, and is inferior to none, although sold at a much lower price. It is put up in bags, at \$40 per ton, of 2,000 lbs., cash.

Office of the New-York Superphosphate Manufacturing Company, No. 159 West-street, New-York.  
March 1—m&wform **VICTOR R. KNOWLES, Agent.**

#### Large Dwarf Pears

**T**HE subscriber offers for sale his collection of Dwarf Pears, to which allusion is made in Barry's Fruit Garden. They consist of Glout Moreau and Vicar of Winkfield, eight years old, Louise Bonne and Winter Nelis, five years old, Benne d'Arenberg, Columbia and Lawrence, four years old. The Vicar of Winkfield bore in 1852 more than a peck of large Pears to each tree, and the ensuing will be the bearing year. The others have all borne more or less fruit. They will be sold for 75 cents to \$2.00, according to size.

Also, bearing trees of over 200 varieties of Dwarf Pears, the selection of ten years' importations, and seven to ten years old.

The above are all very fine trees, and are sold only because the land is wanted for building purposes.

**S. B. PARSONS,**  
March 1—m&wform Flushing, near New-York.

#### Thorp, Smith, Hanchett & Co.,

#### PROPRIETORS OF THE SYRACUSE NURSERIES,

**C**ULTIVATORS of, and Dealers in, all kinds of Nursery Productions, offer for the Spring Sales a very large stock of *Apple, Pear, Cherry and Peach Trees, both Standards and Dwarfs*, as well as a good supply of Plum, Quince, Apricot and Nectarine Trees, and all the best and most popular sorts of the smaller fruits; Currants, Raspberries, Strawberries and Gooseberries.

Their stock of Raspberries includes Fastoff, Franconia, Knevet's Giant, Large Monthly, the Antwerps, and Dr. Brinckle's Seedlings; of Currants all of the leading kinds; and of Gooseberries, 3,000 fine plants of the best Lancashire sorts.

*Grapes*—Native, one, two, and three years old, in large quantities; Foreign—forty best sorts.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubbery, in great variety.

*Roses*—One of the best and rarest collections in the country, including, of course, Mr. Matthews' matchless Seedling, the *Augusta*—of the most luxuriant growth and foliage, profusion of bloom, splendor of flower, and of the most exquisite perfume. The price, as will be seen by our Catalogue, is very much reduced.

*Dahlias, Phloxes, Bulbous Roots, Green-house and Bedding Plants*, including all the novelties of the season. Hedge Plants, Rhubarb and Asparagus in large quantities.

Evergreens of choice varieties, as well as many thousands of Balsam, Norway, European Silver and Scotch firs, Austrian Pines, Chinese and American Arbor Vites, &c., all in fine condition.

Among their stock of Pear Trees, they have in large proportion, the Virgalieu, Onondaga, and Oswego Beurre, both Dwarf and Standard. No more desirable kinds for early bearing, productiveness and great excellence, can be cultivated extensively for market. They have also several hundreds of Extra Sized Fruit trees of the finest growth and form, cultivated and trained into bearing for themselves, which the necessity of changing their grounds to those much more extended requires them in part to remove. These trees consist of Cherry, Plum, Standard and Dwarf Pears. They have furnished the greater portion of the specimen fruits exhibited by the proprietors at the State Fairs for two years past, and are offered at from \$1 to \$3 each.

The products of their nurseries having a reputation second to none in the country, those now favoring them with their orders may rely upon that reputation being sustained. They annex a few commendations selected from many of a like nature, both as to the quality of their trees, and that other essential, the excellency of their packing, to which they invite attention.

"The trees were all packed well, and are very fine—not one article but I am perfectly satisfied with." From Leyden, Cook Co., Illinois.

"The trees were packed well and came to hand in fine order." South Bend, Indiana.

"The trees, though long delayed on the way, arrived in good condition, and opened well. I must say they were evidently taken up and packed with much more than ordinary care." Delaware, Ohio.

"And now about the trees. If you had trimmed them [a novel complaint] they would have been the finest lot of trees I have ever seen from your State. I never saw finer roots." From Springfield, Ohio. [The trees here spoken of, let it be remembered, were sent out from the Syracuse Nurseries as their second class trees.]

"The trees, to appearance, [having been delayed on the way] were in good order, and better trees than I have ever seen west of the Lakes." Roscoe, Ill.

The proprietors have also been favored by a customer with the following certificate, made after an examination of a large lot of their trees:—

"We, the undersigned, do hereby certify, that we have personally examined the lot of fruit trees which Mr. now has in the village of Marshall, and we do not hesitate to say, that they are the best lot of Fruit Trees, to all appearance, that has ever been offered for sale in this county." Dec. 14, 1853. [Signed.] ABNER PRATT, Circuit Judge, Supreme Court; ERASTUS HUSSEY, Co. Clerk; H. A. NOYES, Judge of Probate; J. H. MONTGOMERY, M. D.; D. DARWIN HUGHES; T. A. RANDALL; J. A. VAN HORN; JAMES A. WAY.

Catalogues furnished gratis to all post-paid applications, enclosing a letter stamp to pre-pay the same.

Syracuse, N. Y., Feb'y, 1854—w2m1t

**8000 BUSHELS OF BONE DUST, SUPERIOR TO** anything in market, for sale either by the bushel or barrel. Also, 500 loads of rich Compost Manure.

**THOMAS COULSON,**  
590 Bowery, Albany, N. Y.

Jan. 17—w1y



**New and Improved Plows,**

**I**NCLUDING the Deep Tiller, Flat Furrow, Self Sharpener, Centre Draft, Side Hill, Subsoil, Double Mold, Potato, and Cultivator Plow.

Harrow, Rollers, Seed Sowers, Cultivators and a large assortment of all other Agricultural Implements.

R. L. ALLEN,

Feb. 23—m3tweowtf 189 & 191 Water-St. New-York.

**SAMUEL MOULSON,**

**At the Old Rochester Nursery,**

Office, No. 36 Prout Street, Rochester, N. Y.,

**I**S prepared to furnish inventories to post paid applicants of the present extensive stock of Nursery Items, consisting in part of

10,000 very fine Northern Spy Apple Trees from 7 to 8 feet high, which will be offered by the 1000 at low prices.

90,000 Dwarf and Standard Pears.

20,000 Apple Trees in variety.

20,000 Peach Trees in variety.

15,000 Plums, Cherry and Apricot.

20,000 Osage Orange of different ages. And over

100,000 Hardy Evergreens, and a fine selection of Weeping Deciduous Trees, Ornamental Shrubs, together with such novelties as may be classed strictly hardy, and a large collection of Dahlias, Tulips and other Bulbous Roots.

The Amateur wishing prime fruits of well established repute, or the Agriculturist, needing fine cropping thoroughly tested varieties, may rely upon the most careful execution of their orders.

The Ornamental Items are entirely grown in the Nursery, consequently none of the heavy losses are sustained that usually occur to recently imported subjects.

The Evergreens are very robust and admirably furnished to the surface of the ground, none presenting the naked stems usual to imported plants.

Dealers are invited to give a call before making their purchases.

March 1—m1t

**Valuable Farm for Sale.**

**T**HE FARM KNOWN AS HILLSIDE, in the Town of Macedon, county of Wayne, N. Y., situated two miles from Macedon village (through which the Syracuse and Rochester Railway passes,) and on the Plank road leading to Victor, is offered for sale.

It consists of ninety-one acres, eighteen of which are in woodland, forty of intervals of the finest quality, and the remainder of superior upland.

The supply of water is unusually good.

The Orchard is mostly of young trees, and the selection is the result of extensive acquaintance with fruits for many years.

The Apple Orchard of some Two Hundred trees comprises most of the sterling old varieties, and such new ones as were thought worthy of their company.

The Peach Orchard has some Three Hundred trees mostly in bearing, with the fullest succession of fruit possible.

The Apricot Orchard of One Hundred trees, has eighty trees of the "Golden," and the remainder of well known kinds.

The Pear Orchard has upward of One Hundred standards, forty of which are in bearing, and about Two Hundred Dwarfis, mainly of the celebrated Duchess Angouleme.

The Cherry Orchard is not surpassed by any in the State, having about sixty trees, and upwards of thirty varieties.

There is a Quince Orchard of about seventy trees, and a choice selection of Plums, Nectarines, Thin Shelled Almonds, &c. &c. There are two acres of Strawberries, one-fourth of an acre of Rhubarb, Gooseberries, Grapes, Currants, Raspberries, Asparagus, &c., &c.

The buildings consist of a new and very superior dwelling, built with every regard to permanence, warmth, ventilation and convenience. Parlor and dining room, each fourteen by eighteen feet, a library and five large bed rooms, with three smaller ones—a bath room, kitchen, wash-house, dairy, pantries, &c., with a deep Verandah on each front. Nine rooms are thoroughly warmed by a furnace in the basement.

The large Lawn is planted with a variety of rare and desirable ornamental trees and shrubs.

The Farm and Horse barns are nearly new, and two laborer's cottages are conveniently situated on the property.

Whether reference be had to beauty of situation, fertility of soil, proximity to market, or to an accumulation of those comforts which time and labor alone produce, this will be found a rare opportunity for profitable investment.

The terms of sale can be known by applying to J. D. HUBBARD, Rochester; ASA B. SMITH, Macedon, or to the subscriber.

WILLIAM R. SMITH.

Wilmington, Del., 2d Month, 1854. Feb. 23—w2m1t

**Kentish's Prepared or Artificial Guano.**

Twenty Dollars per Ton.

**POTATO ROT.**—I have used "Kentish's Prepared Guano" this season on potatoes. My crop was large and all sound. Where I did not use it, the potatoes were all rotten and worthless. My neighbors also, who have not used this fertilizer, have not raised a saleable potatoe this year. I consider it a preventive of Rot.

G. PREAUT.

Westchester Co., N. Y., Sept. 29, 1850.

Extract of a Letter from E. B. Addison.

Alexandria Co., Va., April 22, 1851.

Dr. John H. Bayne, President of Prince George's Co. Agricultural Society, Maryland, has desired me to inform you that last spring he used African Guano, Poudrette, Peruvian Guano, and your prepared Guano on Potatoes. The first two were distanced, but the result from the Peruvian and yours, was about equal. He pronounces your Prepared Guano to be a very excellent article, and esteems it highly.

Richmond Co., N. Y., July 27, 1849.

"I have made use of Kentish's Prepared Guano on potatoes, cabbages, cauliflowers, corn and grapes. I found the result much more satisfactory and the produce much larger than where I used imported Guano or any other kind of manure."

EDWARD JENNINGS, Gardener.

It is equally fertilizing on all crops. See the numerous certificates on this subject in the printed circular to be obtained at

KENTISH & CO'S Depot.

March 1—m3t No. 150 West-st., City of New-York.

**POTATO ROT!**

A remedy by use importation and reproduction!

**Valuable Potatoes for Sale.**

**T**HE subscriber offers the following valuable varieties of Potatoes for sale. The N. Y. State Agricultural Society have generously encouraged their importation and culture.

1st. *The Rough Purple Chili.*—This was imported at a great expense from South America, in 1851, and was the only sort out of eight adapted to our climate. For hardness, yield, and quality for the table, it has no equal. Seventy-five small parcels of it were widely spread, in 1853, over twelve Northern States. From more than one-third of them, embracing nine States, reports have been received. These reports, notwithstanding the unfavorableness of the season, usually show a yield varying from twenty to sixty pounds, from one pound planted. But two cases of disease have been reported: one from Mass., and one from N. Y., both in circumstances of very unfavorable culture. The adaptation of this variety to the varying soil and climate of our country is such as to render it superior to any now cultivated. Price, \$8 per bushel.

2d. *Seedlings of the Rough Purple Chili.*—These were derived from the seed-ball of the preceding, in 1852. They present a considerable number of varieties. They have been chosen by three successive selections, from nearly eight hundred varieties, so as to secure hardness, the best yield, and fine flesh. In season of maturity, many of them, and in color and shape, the most of them exceed the parent. They are now offered to the public, after a most laborious and costly cultivation, in the fullest confidence that they will make an addition of valuable sorts to those now in use, such as have never before been made. Connected with them are some other sorts of the same age, and equally valuable, and similarly selected from three other families. Many of these seedlings were widely tested the last year, in connection with the Rough Purple Chili. Those varieties of these seedlings which are too late for the Northern States, have been expressly selected for the South. Price, \$8 per bushel.

Each parcel ordered will be safely packed and directed to the purchaser by railroad or express, as directed, and at the expense and risk of the purchaser. No package failed last year to reach its destination.

Dealers will be allowed a discount of 25 per cent.

Purchasers who take parcels from my house and pack for themselves, will also be allowed 25 per cent. discount.

All orders answered for Cash only.

Residence, near the State Lunatic Asylum.

CHAUNCEY E. GODRICH.

Utica, N. Y., Feb. 10, 1854.

**REFERENCES.**

The following persons are acquainted with these Potatoes, having all cultivated them the last year: D. A. Bulkley, Williamstown, Mass.; A. S. Mitchell, Farmington, Conn.; A. Bradley, Whitestown; H. H. Eastman, Marshall; Dr. H. P. Hays, Wyoming; J. W. Briggs, West Macedon; M. P. Covert, Schenectady; Samuel Buckingham, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; R. L. Colt, Patterson, N. J.; R. C. Walker, Elizabeth; James S. Negley and John Fleming, Pittsburgh, Pa.; J. C. Holmes, Detroit, Michigan; B. Murray and H. L. Brush, Ottawa; Rev. G. W. Gale, Galesburgh, Ill.; D. D. Cathcart, Bristol, Ind.; A. C. Isham, Madison, Wis.

Feb. 23—w3m1t

**Highland Nurseries, Newburgh, N. Y.**

**A.** SAUL & CO., in inviting the attention of their patrons and the public in general, to their very extensive collection of FRUIT & ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBS, &c., &c., would respectfully inform them that the stock which they offer for sale the coming spring, is unusually fine, both as regards quality of trees and variety of kinds, &c.

The soil and climate of the Hudson Highlands, have rendered proverbial the success of the trees sent from here, to all parts of the Union, and the accuracy and precision so indispensable in the propagation of fruit trees, for which this establishment has long been celebrated, render errors in nomenclature of rare occurrence.

They have propagated in large quantities, all the leading standard varieties, which are proved best adapted for general cultivation, especially those recommended by the American Pomological Society; as well as all novelties both of native and foreign origin.

To particularize, within the limits of an advertisement, would be impossible; they refer to their general catalogue, a copy of which will be sent to all pre-paid applicants, on inclosing a Post Office Stamp.

The following comprises a portion of their stock, and are all of fine growth, viz:

**PEARS**—in 400 varieties, both standards on their own stock, for orchard culture; and on Quince for dwarfs, Pyramids and Quenouille, for garden culture.

**APPLES**—in over 300 varieties, both standards, and dwarfs; also, Cherries, both standards and dwarfs; Plum, Apricot, Peach, Nectarine, and Quince trees in every variety.

**GRAPE VINES**—(both native and foreign for vineries.) Gooseberries, (50 best Lancaster varieties,) Currants, Raspberry and Strawberry plants of all leading and known kinds, together with Seakale plants, Asparagus and Rhubarb roots, &c., &c.

**ORNAMENTAL TREES, Shrubs and Vines**, both deciduous and evergreen, suitable for street and lawn planting, embracing all the new and rare Conifers, Weeping trees, and Shrubs of recent introduction.

**ROSES**—in every variety, including Hybrid Perpetual, Hybrid Bourbon, Hybrid China and Hybrid Damask; Prairie, Boursalt, Ayshire, and other climbing and garden varieties, as well as the more tender; Tea, China, Bengal, Bourbon, and Noisette kinds.

**HERBACEOUS PLANTS**.—A large collection of Pæonias, Philoxes, Campanula, Penstemon, Enothera, &c., &c.

**DAHLIAS** and bedding plants, for the parterre and flower garden, in large quantities and variety.

**HEDGE PLANTS**.—500,000 Osage Orange plants of two years' growth, in three sizes, at \$10, \$8 and \$6 per 1,000. Also, Buckthorn plants, two years' growth, at \$5 per 1,000. Arbor vitæ for screens, &c., &c.

Dealers and Planters of trees, on a large scale, will be dealt with on the most liberal terms.

Newburgh, Feb. 20, 1854.—Mar. 1—m2t

**HEDGES! HEDGES!—LIVE FENCES,**  
From the Maclura or Osage Orange.

H. W. PITKIN'S SEEDS AND PLANTS.

**I** WOULD call the attention of those who may desire to enclose their grounds with this desirable hedge, to my Osage Orange Seed, which has, the past season as heretofore, been gathered and preserved under my immediate care and direction, and can therefore be warranted fresh and genuine.

It is well known that a large portion of the seed usually purchased in market, fails to germinate. This is owing to the vital injury received in process of extraction from the apple, and the careless, slovenly manner of putting up and transporting.

Also on hand a large number of selected plants. They are so packed as to be transported with safety and little expense.

A descriptive pamphlet, containing full directions for planting seed, setting and rearing hedges, &c., mailed to purchasers. Address H. W. PITKIN, Manchester, Conn.

Agents—HOYT & Co., Water-street, New-York; P. B. MINGLE, Philadelphia; JOHN SEARS, Jr., Chicago; BYRUM PITKIN & Co., Louisville; D. REDMOND, Augusta, Ga.  
Feb. 23—w4tm2t

**Cranberry Vines.**

**100,000 FINE BEARING PLANTS**, of the Bell variety, which are commonly raised in New England. On low ground, with a little care, they bear large crops. They can be forwarded at any time between this and the first of May, to any part of the United States. A circular, with mode of culture, soil, and price, will be forwarded to all who may want information on the subject.

F. TROWBRIDGE,  
New Haven, Ct.  
Feb. 2, 1854—w4tm1t

**A Valuable Farm for Sale—Very Cheap,**

**SITUATED** within two hours ride from Milwaukee by Railroad. Said farm is in the town of Summit, Waukesha county, Wisconsin, containing one hundred and sixty acres of choice land, and is well watered, and an abundance of heavy timber is on it. A part of the soil is rich Prairie, the balance a light loam. The locality is remarkably healthy and society good. There are upon said farm a good set of Agricultural Implements and a few choice Durham Cattle, all of which will be sold very cheap for cash.

For a more particular description, inquire of  
Feb. 23—w1t THOMAS ALLEN, Chicago, Ill.

**Hallenbeck's Mowing Machine.**

**THE** subscriber having perfected and tested his new and improved Mowing Machine, now offers it to the public for the coming season, confident that it will not fail to give perfect satisfaction. It is simple in construction, light of draft, and perfectly free from clogging. They are built at present for me by Deering & Dederick, corner of Bleecker and Franklin streets, Albany, N. Y. A large number will be made, and are offered to the public, warranted to operate well and to give satisfaction. Persons intending to buy mowing machines will find it to their advantage to examine mine before purchasing.

For further particulars, address the subscriber at Albany, N. Y. MARTIN HALLENBECK.

Feb. 2—w&mtf

**Fowls and Eggs.**

**THE** subscriber has a very choice selection of Fowls that he will breed from the coming season, of the following varieties:—Royal Cochins, China, white, black, buff and brown—Brahma Pootra, or Chittagong, Black Spanish, Bolton Grey or Creole, Gold and Silver Poland. All of the above breeds are pure and very large. Those who want Fowls or Eggs of any of the above breeds will find fowls at moderate prices, and eggs at \$3 per dozen. All orders post paid Eggs carefully packed to send by express, according to direction. He refers to C. W. Goddard, Esq., and B. B. Kirkland, Esq., Albany. GEORGE ANDERSON,  
Feb. 9—w2mt1t\* 56 Schuyler street, Albany.

**Fruit and Ornamental Trees, &c., &c.**

**THE** subscribers have the pleasure of announcing an immense stock of trees, &c., for the spring trade—embracing:

*Standard Trees for Orchards.*  
*Dwarf and Pyramidal Trees for Gardens.*  
*Ornamental Trees for Streets, Parks and Pleasure Grounds.*  
*Rare and beautiful Lawn Trees.*  
*New and rare Weeping Trees.*  
*Evergreen Trees*, embracing the rarest species of Pines, Firs, Spruces, Yews, Cedars, Junipers, &c.  
*Hardy Flowering Shrubs.*  
*Roses*, of all classes, and embracing the newest and best sorts.

*Dahlias*, the finest English prize sorts.  
*Chrysanthemums*, including the finest of the new Pom-pone varieties.

*Philoxes and Pæonies*, superb collections.

*Bedding Plants*, a complete assortment.

*Hedge Plants.*

*Box Edging.*

*Rhubarb, Asparagus, &c., &c.*

All orders, whether for large or small quantities, executed with the greatest care, and in strict compliance with the wishes of the purchaser. Packing done in the most secure and skillful manner, so that parcels can be transmitted thousands of miles with safety. Nurserymen and dealers in trees will be supplied on the most liberal terms.

The following Catalogues are sent gratis and pre-paid to all who apply and inclose a postage stamp for each.

No. 1. Descrip. Catalogue of Fruits.  
No. 2. do. do. Ornamental Trees, &c.  
No. 3. do. do. Dahlias, Greenhouse Plants, &c.  
No. 4. Wholesale Catalogue.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,  
Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.  
Feb. 1, 1854—m2tw2t

**Sherman Morgans for Sale.**

**TWO** of the above Horses (entire), sired by Old Black Hawk from English mares—one a Dark Chestnut, 15 hands high, weight 1,100, six years old—one a Dark Bay or Brown, 15 hands high, weight 1,100, five years old, and every way perfect, well broke to harness, &c.

Address P. T. DAVIS,  
Feb. 9—w4t\* South Hero, Grand Isle co., Vt.



### United States Agricultural Warehouse and Seedstore

No. 197 Water street, near Fulton street, New-York

**M**ERCHANTS, Planters and Farmers, in want of **AGRICULTURAL** and **HORTICULTURAL** IMPLEMENTS or SEEDS, for shipping, plantation, farm or garden purposes, will please call and examine our extensive and superior assortment of goods in the above line, unsurpassed by any other house in the United States, for finish, material and workmanship, and of the most approved patterns; all of which we will sell on as good terms as any other house in this city.

We have among our assortment the far-famed and unequalled **EAGLE D. & F. PLOWS**, warranted to draw lighter and do as good work in sod or stubble ground, as any other Plow to be found in the United States.

We also have the highest premium **Straw Cutters**, **Fan Mills**, **Grain Mills**, **Premium Stalk Cutters**, **Horse Powers**, **Threshers** and **Separators** of different kinds; **Ketchum's** celebrated **Mowing Machine**, unsurpassed; **Hussey's** **Reaping Machine**—also, **McCormick's** **Cotton Gins**, **Cotton Presses**, **Hay and Hide Presses**, **Brick Machines**, **Harrows** of all kinds, **Sugar Mills** for plantation use, **Sugar Mills** for grocer's use, **Hand Store Trucks** of all kinds, **Mule Carts**, **Horse Carts**, **Farm Wagons**, **Wheel Barrows**, **Coal and Canal Barrows**. In fact we have everything for shipping or using on plantation, arn or garden.

**JOHN MAYHER & CO.**

**N. B. Guano**, **Bone Dust**, **Poudrette**, **Superphosphate of Lime**, and other fertilisers. Jan 1, 1853—m&wif

### Poudrette.

**T**HE **LODI MANUFACTURING CO.** offer their **Poudrette** for sale in lots to suit purchasers, from one barrel up to 4,000 barrels, at their usual rates, viz. \$1.50 per barrel for any quantity over seven barrels, delivered on board of vessels in the city of New-York free of cartage or other expense. When 200 to 300 barrels are taken, a deduction will be made from the above price. That this article has stood the test of 14 years' trial, is proof of its efficacy. It is the cheapest and best manure for corn ever produced, and it has the advantage of being useful in small quantities and harmless in large. It is a capital manure for peas, strawberries, &c., &c., and all garden vegetables.

Apply by letter or personally to the **Lodi Manufacturing Co.** 74 Courtland street, New-York. Jan. 19—w4m—m4t

### Peruvian Guano.

**W**E are receiving our supply of **Peruvian Guano** per ships **Blanchard**, **Senator** and **Gray Feather** from the **Chincha Islands**, and now prepared to make contracts for the spring supply. As the demand is large we would advise all who may be in want of this valuable manure to make early application. Price, \$50 per ton of 2,000 pounds. Be particular to observe that every bag is branded,

**Warranted No. 1 Peruvian Guano.**

Imported into the United States by **F. BARRIDA, BROTHERS**, for the **Peruvian Government**.

**LONGETT & GRIFFING**

**State Agricultural Warehouse**, No. 25 Cliff-street, New-York. Oct. 20th—w&mtf.

### Fertilizers.

**P**ERUVIAN GUANO, Super-phosphate of Lime of the following brands, **Deburgh**, **Paterson**, and **Wood**, **Bone Dust**—sawings or meal, turnings and ground, **Potash Scrapings**, **Pulverized Charcoal**, **Ground Land Plaster**, **Sulphuric Acid**.

For sale at the **State Agricultural Warehouse** of

**LONGETT & GRIFFIN,**

Jan. 17—w2m—m4t 25 Cliff street, New-York.

### Eggs for Hatching.

**T**HE subscriber offers for sale, during the coming season, **Brahma Pootra Eggs** for hatching, at \$4 per dozen, sent to any part of the United States or Canadas. Expenses paid to New-York, Albany or Boston.

My stock is inferior to none in the United States.

Any one purchasing Eggs of me, that is not pleased with the chicks in the fall, the money will be refunded.

Reference will be given if required.

**DARIUS GARDNER,**

Jan., 1851—m4t Norwich, Conn.

### Shepherd Wanted.

**W**ANTED—an experienced Shepherd to take care of a flock of sheep near Boston. Address, with terms and references, to

**HOVEY & CO.,**

Dec. 1—mtf 7 Merchants' Row, Boston.

### Basket Willow.

**C**UTTINGS of the best European **OSIER WILLOW** will be furnished by the subscriber at \$3 per thousand. They can be forwarded during the winter to any part of the Union. Orders will meet with prompt attention.

Address **C. P. WILLIAMS,**  
Jan. 1—mtf Albany, N. Y.

### Willow Cuttings and Raspberries.

**F**OR sale, cuttings of the three best varieties for American culture, (*Triandra*, *Forbyana*, and *Purpurea*.) for account of which see *Country Gentleman* of November 27th. Also, **Hudson river Antwerp Raspberries** of excellent quality.

**CHARLES DOWNING,**  
Jan. 19—w4tm2t Newburgh, Orange Co., N. Y.

### Short-Horned Bulls & Suffolk Pigs for Sale.

**I** HAVE three one-year old Bulls for sale, got by my imported bull **Vane Tempest**—colors, roan and red.

Also, a few pairs of choice **Suffolk Pigs** bred from my imported stock.

**J. M. SHERWOOD,**

Jan. 20—w3tm2t Auburn, N. Y.

**I** HAVE on hand and for sale two **Short-Horn Bull Calves**, of good pedigree and fashion. **JOHN R. PAGE,**  
Jan. 12, 1854—w4tm1t\* Sennett, Cayuga co., N. Y.

### Devon Cows,

**H**EIFERS, and **Bull Calves**—pure blood—for sale by  
Feb. 1—mly. **B. V. FRENCH,** Braintree, Mass.

### Suffolk Pigs,

**O**F pure blood, for sale by **B. V. FRENCH,**  
Feb. 1—mly Braintree, Mass.

### Brahma Pootra Fowls and Eggs for Sale.

**T**HE subscriber offers for sale the most beautiful **Brahma Pootra Fowls** that can be found in the country. Also, **Eggs** from the same fowls next spring and summer. Price of fowls, \$10 to \$50 per pair; eggs, \$6 per dozen.

Also, buff colored **Shanghais** and **Eggs**.

Fowls cooped and Eggs carefully packed in spring boxes, and sent to all parts of the country, by addressing, post paid,

**E. GILES,**

Jan., 1854—m2t Sauquoit, Oneida Co., N. Y.

### For Sale or Lease,

**5,000 ACRES OF CHOICE FARMING LANDS** in Gallatin county, Illinois, in the immediate vicinity of the extensive Mining operations of the **Shawnee Coal Company**. A cash market for all kinds of farm products at the mines. These lands will be sold or leased to good farmers on accommodating terms.

For particulars, apply to **H. H. CASEY, Sec'y,**  
Corner Hanover Square and Pearl street.

New-York, Feb. 1, 1854—m5t



### Isabella Grape Vines,

**O**F proper age for forming vineyards, cultivated from, and containing all the good qualities which the most improved cultivation for over fourteen years has conferred on the **Croton Point Vineyards**, are offered to the public. Those who may purchase will receive such instructions for four years, as will enable them to cultivate the grape with entire success, provided their locality is not too far north. All communications addressed to **R. T. UNDERHILL, M. D.**, New-York, or **Croton Point**, Westchester Co., N. Y., will receive attention. The additional experience of two past seasons, give him full assurance that by improved cultivation, pruning, &c., a crop of good fruit can be obtained every year, in most of the northern, and all the middle, western, and southern states.

**N. B.** To those who take sufficient to plant four acres, as he directs, he will, when they commence bearing, furnish the owner with one of his vinedressers whom he has instructed in his mode of cultivation; and he will do all the labor of the vineyard, and ensure the most perfect success. The only charge a reasonable compensation for the labor. **R. T. U.**

Jan. 20—m2t—w2f&4tm

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## Garden Implements.

**HEDGE LONG HANDLE AND SLIDING PRUNING** Shears; Budding and Edging Knives; Pruning Hatchets, saws and knives; pruning, vine and flower scissors; bill and Milton hooks; lawn and garden rakes; garden scutflers, hoes of great variety, shovels and spades; hand engines, which throw water forty feet or more, syringes and water pots; grafting chisels, tree scrapers, and caterpillar brushes; transplanting trowels, reels; hand plow and cultivator, very useful to work between rows of vegetables, together with a large assortment of other implements too numerous to mention.

R. L. ALLEN,  
Feb. 16—m3tweowtf 187 & 191 Water-st., New-York.

## Seeds! Seeds!

**FIELD AND GARDEN SEEDS**, of all the different varieties, at the State Agricultural Warehouse.

LONGETT & GRIFFIN,  
Feb. 16—w6t—m2t No. 25 Cliff st., New-York.

**North River Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store.**  
No. 53 Cortland-Street, New-York,

**WHERE** may be found a large and complete assortment of the best and latest improved Agricultural and Horticultural Implements, Field and Garden Seeds, Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Fertilizers of all kinds, &c., &c.  
March 1—mtf GEO. H. BARR & Co.

**SHEPHERD DOGS.—WANTED**, one of the above Dogs of the Scotch Collie breed. He should be under one year old, and partially trained. Name lowest price at once, which must be moderate.  
A. B. ALLEN,  
Feb. 16—m&wlt 189 Water-st., New-York.

## Field and Garden Seeds.

**SPRING WHEAT**, Barley, Oats, Grass Seeds, Clover, Fresh Ray Grass, Lucern and White Clover just imported. Excelsior Potatoes, a new and improved variety, Belgian Carrot, Sugar Beet, &c.

Garden Seeds of all kinds, including Flower Seeds.  
R. L. ALLEN,  
Feb. 16—m3tweowtf 189 & 191 Water-st., New-York.

## Fertilizers.

**SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME**, NO. 1, of the best manufacture; Peruvian Guano, fresh, No. 1; Poudrette; Plaster of Paris, &c.  
R. L. ALLEN,  
Feb. 16—m3tweowtf 189 & 191 Water-st., New-York.

## Fertilizers.

**BEST Peruvian Guano**—Super-Phosphate of Lime, "DeBurg's No. 1"—Poudrette, of the best quality—Ground Plaster, suitable for agricultural purposes—Ground Bone, Bone Dust, and Burnt Bone. Also, Grass Seeds of reliable quality, at the lowest market price.  
GEO. DAVENPORT, 5 Commercial,  
Feb. 9, 1854—w&mtf cor. of Chatham st., Boston.

## Manures.

**PERUVIAN GUANO**, Improved Superphosphate of Lime, Bone Dust, Bone Black, Sulphuric Acid, Potash, Poudrette, Plaster of Paris, Charcoal, &c., &c., for sale by  
GEO. H. BARR & Co.,  
March 1—mtf 53 Cortlandt-street, New-York.

## Super-Phosphate of Lime.

**THIS** celebrated fertilizer, where it has been fairly tested the last year, has been found equal, and in many cases superior to the best Peruvian guano, in its immediate effect, and much more permanently beneficial to the land. It is adapted to any soil in which there is a deficiency of phosphate, which is often the case. All crops are benefited by its application. It is composed of ground bones, decomposed by sulphuric acid, to which is added a due proportion of Peruvian guano, sulphate of ammonia, &c.

For sale, with full directions for use, in bags of 150 pounds each. No charge for package. All bags will be branded "C. B. DeBurg, No. 1 Super-Phosphate of Lime."  
GEO. DAVENPORT, Ag't for manufacturer,  
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Feb. 16, 1854—w&mtf

## Ground Bone.

**THE** subscribers are now prepared to furnish Bone Dust by the barrel or ton in its pure and most efficient state, ground to any desired fineness. GEO. H. BARR & Co.,  
March 1—mtf 53 Cortlandt-street, New-York.

## Super-phosphate of Lime.

**THIS** article was first introduced into England twelve years since, from its magic effects. It became one of the most popular manures in use, and holds the highest in rank next to guano. It was introduced about two years ago in this country, made in a much superior manner, with all the modern improvements of a very learned agricultural chemist, adapted to our soil, which has improved its fertilizing effects equal to guano. Hence we offer a pure article composed entirely of Phosphate of Lime, Sulphuric Acid, Peruvian Guano, and Sulphate of Ammonia. The latter is the article, and one of the most efficient agents in the best Peruvian Guano, at \$15 per ton of 2,000 lbs.

Every bag will be branded.

LONGETT & GRIFFIN,  
State Agricultural Warehouse, No. 25 Cliff street, N. York.  
Jan. 21—wtf

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